

THE ATHENÆUM

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No. 1573.

LONDON, SATURDAY, DECEMBER 19, 1857.

PRICE
FOURPENCE
Stamped Edition, 5d.

UNIVERSITY OF LONDON.—NOTICE
IS HEREBY GIVEN, that the following CLASSICAL SUBJECTS have been selected for Examination in this University in the year 1858, viz.:

For the MATRICULATION EXAMINATION—
HOMER: Iliad, Book V.
CICERO: De Amicitia, and Pro Lege Manilia.
For the Examination for the Degree of BACHELOR OF ARTS—
PLATO: Apology of Socrates, and Crito.
LIVY: Book XXI.
HORACE: The Satires.
By order of the Senate,
WM. B. CARPENTER, M.D., Registrar.
Burlington House, Dec. 10, 1857.

CHRISTMAS HOLIDAYS.—The South Kensington Museum and Schools will be open to the Public, free, in the MORNING and EVENING, from the 26th of December to the 2nd of January next, both days inclusive.
By order of the Committee of Council on Education.

ROYAL INSTITUTION OF GREAT BRITAIN. Alnhamer-street, Dec. 1857.
JUVENILE LECTURES.—MR. FARADAY will deliver, during the Christmas Vacation, a COURSE OF SIX LECTURES on STATO-ELECTRICITY, intended for a Juvenile Audience, on the following days, at 3 o'clock.—Tuesday, 26th, Thursday, 28th of December, Saturday, 2nd, Tuesday, 5th, Thursday, 7th, Saturday, 9th, of January, 1858. Non-subscribers to the Royal Institution are admitted to this Course on the payment of One Guinea each; and Children under 16 years of age, Half-a-Guinea. A Syllabus may be obtained of the Royal Institution. Subscribers to all the Courses of Lectures delivered in the Session pay Two Guineas.
JOHN BARLOW, M.A., V.P., and Sec. R.I.
December 10, 1857.

QUEEN'S COLLEGE, LONDON, 67 and 68, Harley-street. W. Incorporated by Royal Charter, 1853, for the General Education of LADIES, and for granting Certificates of Knowledge.
Visitor.—The Right Hon. and Right Rev. the Lord Bishop of London.
Principal.—The Very Rev. the Dean of Westminster.
The Classes of this College will re-open for the LENT TERM on January 13, 1858.
The Preparatory Class, for Children above Eight years of age, will re-open on the same day.
Pupils are received as Boarders within the College by Mrs. Williams, with the sanction of the Council.
Prospectuses, and further particulars, may be obtained at the Office, or by written application to the Secretary or Lady Resident.
E. H. PLUMPTRE, M.A.,
Secretary and Dean.

QUEEN'S COLLEGE, LONDON, 67 and 68, Harley-street. W. Incorporated by Royal Charter, 1853, for the General Education of LADIES, and for granting Certificates of Knowledge.
The Rev. F. D. MAURICE proposes (if as many as sixty names are entered) to deliver a Course of Lectures next Term—
ON SOME OF THE LEADING MORAL AND SOCIAL QUESTIONS WHICH OCCUPIED CHRISTENDOM DURING THE FOURTEENTH, FIFTEENTH, AND SIXTEENTH CENTURIES.
The proceeds of the Lecture will be applied to the Endowment Fund of the College.
For the Course One Guinea and a Half. Ladies wishing to attend are requested to send their names to the Assistant Secretary, Mrs. Williams, on or before the 15th of January. The Lectures will be delivered at 3 o'clock, beginning on January 26th. A Syllabus of the Course may be had on application.
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THE GOVERNESSES' INSTITUTION, 34, Soho-square.—Mrs. WAGHORN, who has resided many years abroad, respectfully invites the attention of the Nobility, Gentry, and Principals of Schools to her Register of English and Foreign GOVERNESSES, TEACHERS, COMPANIONS, TUTORS, and PROFESSORS. School Property transferred, and Pupils introduced in England, France, and Germany. No charge to Principals.

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The FIRST SESSION of 1858 will COMMENCE on WEDNESDAY, January 27.

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The next Term begins January 16, and ends April 27.

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The Prizes were distributed on the 17th inst., by the Rev. Sir GEORGE GLYN, Bart.

Leat Term, 1857, commences on the 26th January, when new Pupils and Students can be admitted.
LECTURES on NATURAL PHILOSOPHY will be delivered during the Term, by J. SMITH, Esq., M.R.C.S.
LESSONS in RIDING will also be given weekly after the Vacation.
In every case the probable future is the rule of study. Some of the Pupils are prepared for Commercial Life; some for the Universities; some for the Civil Service Examination; some for the Naval and Military Colleges. French and German, by a resident Professor.
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REVIEWS

Questions communicated by Lord Overstone to the Decimal Coinage Commissioners, with Answers. (Presented to both Houses of Parliament by Her Majesty.)

OUR readers are aware of these questions; of the fact that answers were communicated and printed; of the attempt made by Lord Overstone to suppress the answers until the meeting of Parliament, which nobody supposed would take place before February; of the determination thereupon taken by the Decimal Association to publish the answers on their own side of the question; and of Lord Overstone having consented at last to publish the answers, after the Decimal Association had actually issued their first number. The Blue Book now before us, containing the whole of the answers, appeared simultaneously with the third and concluding number of the Decimal Association: the first number contained Prof. De Morgan's answers (*ante*, p. 1419), which ran to considerable length. The second number contained Sir John Herschel's answers, which likewise were long. The third number contains shorter answers by Dr. Peacock, Mr. Airy, Prof. Miller, Mr. Miller, and Mr. Franklin.

In describing the arguments given, we shall first mention two Americans, Mr. Paterson, of Albany, and Mr. Snowden, Director of the United States Mint. Knowing the advantages of a decimal system by experience, these gentlemen make very light of the pretended advantages of duodecimal division. They both seem to write under the feeling that if Great Britain decimalize anything, it will be the pound: but Mr. Snowden, in particular, casts a lingering look towards a system founded on the halfpenny, which would give a coin of 100 halfpence, very close to the dollar. But neither takes up the question how decimals should be introduced, with any strength of opinion: this they leave to us, satisfied that their proper office is to give their reasons in favour of decimals as opposed to our present system. And their opinions will be read with interest.

On the part of the pound-and-mil system we have arguments from Mr. Airy, Mr. H. W. Chisholm, Prof. De Morgan, Mr. J. A. Franklin, Sir J. Herschel, Prof. Miller (of Cambridge), Mr. W. Miller (of the Bank of England), Rev. P. T. Oury, Dr. Peacock, and Sir W. R. Hamilton, Astronomer-Royal for Ireland, who has, however, merely incorporated his opinion into the draft of a Bill for the purpose. Mr. G. Arbuthnot and Mr. J. B. Smith, M.P., can hardly be set down as decided about decimals. Mr. Smith, however, is strong against the pound-and-mil system, which he says puts an extinguisher upon mental calculation, except to here and there a genius like Bidder. Mr. Smith puts himself quite out of account by showing that he does not know what he talks about. Every one knows that a decimal system, once established, is 1, 10, 100, 1000, &c., of something. What that something may be matters nothing at all to calculation, mental or written, so long as the smallest coin is always, or nearly always, the smallest matter to be considered. There are many questions about the best mode of transition from what we have got to what we are to have: but anybody ought to have the sense to see that, the new once in and the old once out, there is no difference, as to calculation, between 1, 10, 100, &c., mils, 1, 10, 100, &c., pence, and 1, 10, 100, &c., Chrononhotontologoses, except the very inconvenient length of the latter word.

There is a better name, which we should have been glad to see make a better appearance, though it had been against our own views: it is that of Mr. J. R. McCulloch, the veteran political economist, and author of the 'Commercial Dictionary.' And if the writer of that book have not a head for figures, who has? Mr. McCulloch begins by saying, in a short letter to Lord Overstone,—"In truth this is a matter to which I have never paid much attention, and in regard to which I am but slenderly informed." He then goes on to describe any change into decimals as a gratuitous piece of folly, giving as one of his chief reasons—indeed the only reason which he illustrates—that a merchant who wishes to keep his books in decimals can do it now, his clerk having a table by him which he is to use for conversion of shillings and pence into decimal equivalents. All sides will probably agree that this proposal smacks of the slender information arising from little attention. We cannot receive Mr. McCulloch as evidence: he must excuse our saying that men of his note, when they come forward to give opinions upon little attention and slender information, give good ground of complaint to the more attentive and the better informed on their own side. Lord Overstone must have been hard put to it for support before he produced this letter, which he did, we imagine, on the motive of Goldsmith's friend—

And now I think on it, as I am a sinner.
We wanted this venison to make up a dinner.

We cannot rank Mr. James Yates with the decimalists, because his metrical system, though he argues well for decimals as decimals, is a hopeless tin kettle at his tail. We shall never reckon, in francs: we shall never have for our measures of length no choice except between the mètre of about 40 inches, or the decimètre of about 4 inches. But, conceding that a common system of weights and measures throughout Europe may be a distant possibility, we should think better of its present advocates if they could see that the first practical step towards it would be the decimalization of our own pound. Mr. Yates thinks this would be a step away from it; and this is much more the point at issue between us and him than the merits of the metrical system. This system has had fair play; Mr. Yates has done all for it that can be done.

We leave out of view Mr. Hemming, late Fellow of St. John's, Cambridge, as another of the impracticables. Not content with our present amount of duodecimal reckoning, he wants more; and is, therefore, the true representative of the reason of the other side of the question. For, if what Lord Overstone advances in favour of duodecimals be sound, we ought to have more of them. But Mr. Hemming does not propose to force them: all he asks is an extension of duodecimals, which may enable those who please to have more. But this we decline discussing: it does not belong to the question actually under consideration. We shall also omit further notice of Mr. Julius Page, who has given an elaborate paper on the exchanges, which, he thinks, would be more difficult under a decimalized pound. But the proficients in the calculation of exchanges are a strong body of arithmeticians, and will deal with him in their own manner. So far as our readers are concerned, the question is very distant. We think Mr. Page will be easily answered.

We have thus mentioned twelve advocates of decimalization, and six advocates of various views, whom we notice no further, for various reasons. A little phalanx of five remains, who

side with Lord Overstone on grounds which prove at least that they have attended to the question. In the number of advocates who are thus placed in opposition, the decimalists are duodecimal, the duodecimalists are semi-decimal. The five are, Mr. J. J. Bennett and Dr. Gray, of the British Museum, Mr. S. A. Goddard, Mr. R. Slater, and his son, Mr. R. Slater, jun.

The penny system has disappeared. Mr. T. Rathbone, who gave evidence before the Commissioners in its favour, has published his answers to Lord Overstone in a separate pamphlet. Mr. Minasi, who followed on the same side, makes no appearance here. Some of the five still keep to the penny system so far as this, that they would have it in preference to any other decimal system. We saw, from the earliest appearance of Lord Overstone's questions, that their first effect would be the dismissal of the penny scheme from consideration, and the application of the tug of war to the true question, Are we to remain as we are, or to decimalize our pound?

Dr. Gray and Mr. Slater gave evidence, which was printed in the preliminary report, and that evidence gave much matter to Lord Overstone for his questions. We have taken some notice of them already. We have alluded to Mr. Slater's admission, that his own knowledge of decimal calculations is only incidental; and to Dr. Gray's discovery, that the pound-and-mil system would necessitate a change of standard, because the price of an ounce of gold would require five decimal places. Our new acquaintances are, Mr. Bennett, Mr. Goddard, and Mr. Robert Slater.

Examination of these three witnesses is, our readers will take notice, a much more important thing in relation to the question than could be surmised, either from the witnesses themselves or their evidence. Lord Overstone's questions were brought forward in great pomp and circumstance. They were lauded in many quarters as completely unanswerable by any decimalist. They were to travel the country, bringing in from all quarters the real and true elements of the discussion. Lord Overstone evidently is not particular as to what he brings forward; he flies at all game. He will produce the mere dictum of a person who confesses that he has paid little attention to the subject and is slenderly informed, provided only that person has a name. What has all this mass of elaborate questions produced, over and above what was in the field before, in favour of the side which those questions adopt?—the evidence of Mr. J. J. Bennett, Mr. Goddard, and Mr. Robert Slater, jun. Consequently, to their evidence we turn our particular attention.

Mr. Bennett is a forcible asserter; he is one of those people who, to use a common phrase, put things strongly. This is very often a synonyme for choosing strong things to put, without any attention to their correctness. We will give an instance. Speaking of the decimal system generally, Mr. Bennett says:—

"Its great 'inferiority' as compared with a coinage founded on a combination of the binary with the duodecimal and vicesimal scale is so obvious, and the extreme importance of this fractional divisibility in the great mass of the transactions of every-day life is so familiar to all practical men, that on this account alone a decimal system would be at once rejected by the great bulk of the community as an impolitic, inconvenient, and retrograde measure."

This is putting it strongly, in the sense of picking up a strong thing to put. How stand the facts? In 1847, the Government, seeing the opinion gradually growing, conceded the

florin to the feeling of the House of Commons, as a precursor of complete decimalization. By 1853, a committee of the House of Commons reported strongly in favour of the change. Since that time, or before, Chambers of Commerce throughout the country have declared in favour of it. One of the best and most numerous signed petitions that ever proceeded from London merchants was presented in favour of it. The Bank of England supports the change, and subscribes to an association in its favour numbering hundreds of legislators and mercantile men. A large majority affirmed the principle in the House of Commons, and wrested a Royal Commission from an unwilling Government. An inquiry made by Manchester tradesmen among 110 of their correspondents in all parts of the country showed that two out of three had attended to the subject; that those who had attended to the subject were in its favour by four to one; and that nearly one out of three of those who had not attended to the subject were in its favour also. And yet the great bulk of the community would reject decimal coinage at once! We should not be surprised if his colleagues were to suspect Mr. J. J. Bennett, of the British Museum, F.R.S., of being a decimalist in disguise. He certainly will do good to the decimal cause.

Putting things strongly is usually connected with the power of not seeing that which exists, and of seeing that which does not exist. Mr. Bennett could not see the preceding state of facts, or he would not have put it so strongly. We will now give an instance of his power of seeing what does not exist:—

"It is certain that in this, as in all doubtful cases, the weakest will go to the wall. A single illustration will suffice to show the working of the change in this particular; it is not one selected by myself, but one which has been adopted by the most active of the promoters of the pound-and-mil scheme, as a proof of the facility with which the new system would be brought into operation. It is that of the orange-boy selling his oranges at 'two a penny.' The cry, it is admitted, would be still the same; but the idea attached to the penny would be a different one, and would signify four mils. Now, let us see the effect of the change upon the boy's earnings. We will suppose that he starts in the morning with 100 oranges, and that he sells them all before night. For these hundred oranges he has paid 3s. under the present system, or their exact equivalent of 150 mils under the new. But under the present system, his oranges at two a penny produce him 4s. 2d.; under the new he will find that he has 200 mils, equivalent only to 4s. The profit on his day's labour is thus reduced from 1s. 2d. to 1s., and 'he knows the reason why.' One-seventh of his scanty earnings have been struck off for the sake of introducing a system which it is supposed will enable those whose dealings are in thousands and tens of thousands to dispense with the services of one or two clerks."

We premise that we are satisfied Mr. Bennett is not knowingly unfair, but is only obliged by temperament to concentrate all his vision upon the strong thing which he is putting. We pass over the curiosity of the collection, all whose doubtful cases are certain: this is only strength of grammar. We come to the single illustration which "will suffice," and which Mr. Bennett informs us is not selected by himself. This is true: it is only recast and augmented by himself. By a periphrastic description, he fastens it upon the wrong person: by the "most active of the promoters," he means Mr. De Morgan; any one who knows the contest would suppose he meant Mr. William Brown. These are the facts:—Mr. Lowe, the Member for Kidderminster, affirmed in the House of Commons that under the pound-and-mil system apple-women must do

business by help of such decimals as '004166666666 *ad infinitum*. Mr. De Morgan, not thinking such nonsense worthy of serious answer, supposed an orange-boy, who in a short dialogue, let the hon. member into the secret that the first key of the new system would be the remembrance of the extra farthing in sixpence. All the rest is Mr. Bennett's own making; this gentleman supposes, for himself, that the orange-boy will give the same for his fruit as before, and that the four per cent. difference will fall upon the boy only. It is Mr. Bennett's own supposition that the boy gives 3s. exactly,—none of the Overstone party ever break a shilling,—and that this 3s. is unchangeable. And all this, by implication, he attributes to Mr. De Morgan. He winds up by implying that his opponents, as he puts it, are supporting the pound-and-mil system, which, according to themselves, will diminish the earnings of the poor, in order that merchants may dispense with a few clerks, when he knows very well that those opponents assert and maintain that the benefits of decimalization will nowhere be more felt than in the small transactions of the poor, and in their education. And this sort of petty dealing runs through the whole of Mr. Bennett's attempt to support Lord Overstone. There is also so much advanced on Mr. Bennett's own authority, that we are naturally led to ask what that authority is. His qualifications, he tells us, consist "solely in an acquaintance with the ordinary transactions of every-day life, a great fondness for reckoning, and a considerable amount of practice for calculation, both decimal and mixed." But he does not appeal to anything he has done, and, being vouched for only by himself, it would have been wise in him to have avoided making things too strong. We, however, have no right to complain; it is of use to what we believe to be the truth that its opponents should be so easily exposed. And this is the first witness whom Lord Overstone's questions have brought out in favour of the existing coinage.

Mr. Goddard, the second witness, does not put things strongly. He echoes, generally in a quiet and modest way, the opinions expressed in the questions which he answers. He approves of the difficulties of compound arithmetic, which he thinks exercise the memory and the imagination: he cannot see how time can be more usefully spent. Lord Overstone's questions were intended as arguments "to promote a thorough and effectual investigation of the arguments submitted by the opponents of the proposed change." Mr. Goddard puts himself into the witness-box, and gives evidence. This error has been fallen into by his colleagues to a great extent: there is too much of their belief and opinion, which depends entirely for its value upon the opinions entertained of themselves; and too little of attempt to reinforce Lord Overstone by argument. We treat Mr. Goddard as a respectable witness, of whom we shall better be able to judge when we come across those writings in which, by his own account, he has demolished the pound-and-mil system—by argument, we suppose. If a decimal system is to be, Mr. Goddard would have the penny system, with a Victoria of 100 pence. In this he sees some use in accounts, &c. &c. We here dismiss his evidence.

Mr. Robert Slater, jun., the third witness, also contributes to Lord Overstone's challenge of argument little more than his own evidence. For instance, he is "not of opinion that a change to a decimal system of notation and coins merely, would offer us any advantage in regard to facility in stating, and in simplifying calculations or payments." And this, his opinion, is the whole of his argument on the

question. He reinforces Mr. Goddard on the utility of the difficult: a of compound arithmetic. He thinks that decimal arithmetic would only make machines. What are boys made by the present system? We must defer to consider this opinion further until we know what authority its propounder may claim. About a year and a half ago, Mr. R. Slater, jun., appeared at a meeting called by the Decimal Association, and, alone and unsupported, gave his arguments in favour of the penny system in a manner which gained the respect of a whole room full of opponents. Had he come there with his opinions only, he would have been laughed at.

Those who have opposed Lord Overstone have taken the argumentative side. We have already spoken of Prof. De Morgan. Sir John Herschel has gone into the matter even more in detail. He has fastened upon the Overstone examples of superiority in our present system, all drawn from even money, and has met them, one by one, with a counter example, in which the pound-and-mil system beats the one in existence. This he does in a neat and sly manner, which is exquisitely amusing. Lord Overstone relies very much upon choosing those easiest cases of the present system, which do not translate into the easiest cases of the pound-and-mil system:—Sir John Herschel hits him with a *tu quoque* in the following manner, implying that both modes of proceeding are equally unfair:—

Lord Overstone.

Take half-a-crown—double it—treble it—halve it—divide it by 3—and add all these products together. Is not this easily done by any common person, in his head, without pen and ink or pencil, and in the midst of confusion?

Sir John Herschel.

Take 60 mils—double it—treble it—halve it—divide it by 3 and by 5—and add all the products together. Is not this easily done by any common person, &c.?

But try the same process upon the same sum in decimal notation,—namely, on 125 mils. Will the calculation be equally simple and easy?

But try the same process upon the same sum in £ s. d. notation, namely, on 1s. 2d. 3qr. 3. Will the calculation be equally simple and easy?

The brief answerers, Dr. Peacock, Mr. Airy, Prof. Miller, Mr. Miller, Mr. Franklin, and Mr. Chisholm, have shown how to insinuate arguments in few words. At the same time, their brevity has tended to expression of opinion as the only answer, more frequently than in the case of those who have taken more room. Mr. Chisholm gives a result of observation which is worth all Mr. Bennett's assertions put together, in connexion with Lord Overstone's great maxim of "a shilling a pound."—

"Since these remarks were written they have been tested by observation of the ticketed shops in Oxford Street. The first shop noticed was a linen-draper's, the window being filled with dresses, ticketed at various prices, from 3s. 3d. to 16s. 9d. the dress. No other or divisible article was ticketed. The second shop was a haberdasher's, the window filled with ribbons, ticketed at the following prices per yard:—6½d., 7¾d., 8¾d., 9¾d., 10¾d., 11¾d., 1s. 2½d., and 1s. 3½d., and at no other or more easily divisible price. The third shop was another linen-draper's, with a number of similarly ticketed dresses, together with a few rolls of muslin, ticketed at two prices only, 9¾d. and 10¾d. a yard,—'any length cut.' It was impossible not to be struck with the fact, that very few articles indeed exhibited in the shop-windows were at all divisible [Mr. Chisholm means that their prices were not accurately divisible] for the purposes of sale."

We now understand why, when the natural time of publication arrived, Lord Overstone shrunk from placing the result of his question

before the world, and would gladly have deferred the exposure until the turmoil of a new session had brought its demands upon the time of the legislature and the thought of the public. We hope and trust that his very important step—namely, the bringing the real alternative to pound-and-mil decimalization, remaining as we are, before the world in all its weakness—will hasten the Report of the Commissioners. Those who have opposed him—and the Decimal Association in particular—will not now desire to be examined before the Commissioners, unless Lord Overstone should invite those who have answered him to present themselves for cross-examination. If he should give this invitation it will be readily accepted; and the slain will be slain again. But we doubt his having any wish left to offer this challenge; and no one else will think that more time should be spent in inquiry. We do not expect unanimity in the Report of the Commissioners: but this is of little consequence, when the dissenting Member has so fairly and openly made an individual of himself, and brought his own private opinion into contact with the demolition of its grounds. But we think, except only on the contingency of Lord Overstone desiring more beating, that the public has a right to expect a Report not very late in the next—we ought to say, the present—session of Parliament.

If there be time, we recommend some of those who have the assurance to assert that our present system is *more easy* than the decimal system to send in to the Commissioners an answer to the following challenge, made by Prof. De Morgan to Lord Overstone:—

"Let any number of questions, such as concern the poor, be collected by the Commission, and solved by those who would retain the existing system, in their own way. Let them concern the great articles of daily consumption, bread, cheese, meat, vegetables, beer, tea, sugar, coffee, pepper, tobacco, &c. &c. Let them be taken from actual prices; let it be stated for each whether it is to be done by pen work or by head work, and let the work of the common system be handed to me. I will undertake to add the way of working in the decimal system, and I will make it apparent that the medley of our weights and measures adapts itself to a decimal coinage better than to the existing coinage. A hundred or two of questions, in answer to my challenge, will be much more to the purpose than general arguments about clean fractions, which can only be supported upon *even* prices. The questions proposed are worthless as a trial of the natural wants of calculation of the poorer classes."

In his preliminary observations, speaking of this challenge, Prof. De Morgan says:—

"I have made an offer to which I respectfully invite the attention of the noble proposer and of the querists who speak through him. I will make that offer a source of strength to the pound-and-mil system if it be declined, of more strength if it be met by unfair instances, of most strength of all if it be met by fair instances. The case which happens shall, in its degree, reinforce the conclusions I have drawn from the questions themselves, that is, from their excessive adherence to a *shilling a pound* and their silence on shillings and pence per pound, or on pence and farthings per pound."

Lord Overstone, no doubt, declines to meet this challenge, which was placed before him at the end of April. But will not some of his followers take it up, and send in their questions and answers to the Commission? If the admirers of duodecimal arithmetic—or whatever they call our system—really feel any confidence in their scheme, let them try conclusions in a practical way with the arithmetician who dares them to the trial, and, immediately informing the Commission of their intention,

proceed to prepare for laying their results before that body.

The Upper Rhine: the Scenery of its Banks and the Manners of its People. Illustrated by Birket Foster. Described by Henry Mayhew. *Mayence to the Lake of Constance.* (Routledge & Co.)

THIS is a dainty volume, bright and heraldic, glistening with golden lions and imperial eagles on an azure field without, and within displaying, through arches of limes and elms, glimpses of sunny lakes, sweeps of lazy rivers, cheery towns nestling among quiet hills,—conical spires, and famous clock-towers, and quaint vacant squares and market-places thronged with mediæval men and women and students that take no note of time in the material under-world. No hum of wheel, save spinning-wheel; no whirr of engine anywhere,—deep, primeval, Teutonic stillness, everything standing still. Yes, "dear God, the very houses seem asleep." Business gliding at its own sweet will, no income-tax, no disputing about currency (how can there be, arithmetic there being not well known?), the post seldom arriving, and still seldomer an English newspaper, living cheap and primitive, the people hospitable, and pleasure inexpensive. What region in the world is there where a man is so likely to become healthy, wealthy, and wise as a quiet town in the Upper Rhine provinces? Take Oppenheim, for example, or neat and prim Mannheim, according as you incline to old or new architecture. In the first place you will have a fine old Gothic church, with delicious window traceries to study, and may fleet the time away with eating grapes in the vineyards, sketching the dreamy Fraulein, or throwing off rings of smoke into the sunny haze that floats round the dim Odenwald. Five or six rooms cost you a pound a month, fowls sixpence each, fruit is ridiculously cheap, peaches a penny a dozen, grapes a penny or twopence a pound, coffee is a penny a cup, and soup a penny a plate. The beds are somewhat scant, and the rooms not well provided with air, and a gentleman of accurate taste may object to the acidity of the wines, forgetting to take into account the article of cheapness. Mr. Mayhew files a long indictment against the manners, customs, householders, and inhabitants of the Rhineland in general. He objects to the stoves, to the beds, to the air-tight rooms, to the wine, and to the maidens who did not smile upon him. Did our English traveller smile first, or did "the winter of his discontent" conceal the friendliness of the German summer? To the universal beer-drinking and smoking he is especially unfriendly. They smoke everywhere. Have we never known English travellers chronicle a similar remark? Everybody is familiar with Heidelberg, and its pretty valley scenery, and everybody who has not a heavy purse will avoid it.

Into domestic life in Germany here is a peep:

"A coffee party is, in plain language, a scandal party, for on these occasions more slander is discussed than Mocha—ladies only being invited to the entertainment, since even the gentleman of the house is instructed to absent himself from home on the occasion. For a wretch in pantaloons to obtain admission to such an assembly, is as impossible as for him to see what is going on in a harem. We did, however, indirectly worm our way into one such muster, whereat the conversation was of course about as intellectual, and displayed about as much loving-kindness, (though the ladies were mostly of an ostensibly 'religious' turn of mind,) as the chatter that goes on in the monkey-cages at the Zoological Gardens. First it was whispered that Fraulein Krummbein had been seen walking arm-in-arm with Herr Keingros, and this was unanimously declared to be highly indecent on that

young lady's part unless she were betrothed, which all the ladies were sure she was not, and never would be if she went on in the way she did. Then one of the party informed the rest, that she had actually heard that impudent Engländer '*dutzen*' (*tu-toi*) Fraulein Rothshaar; at which the united hands and eyebrows were thrown up, and the religious and lady-like assembly one and all blasphemed. After this another lady told her sisters that some lately married couple had been blessed with a beautiful little boy; whereupon the lips of the ladies all went to work in silence, for they were evidently engaged in a little bit of mental arithmetic concerning the calendar, and when the calculation was ended they severally tossed their heads and cried '*Lieber Gott!*' Next the news was circulated that the Provisor at the Apotheker's was going to be married again, although his wife had been dead only three weeks; but then it was universally allowed that there was a great excuse for the poor man, as he had a large family—though, to be sure, not one of the children was a bit like him. Presently the ladies began to compare notes as to their servants, and then each pronounced her '*braves Mädchen*' to be the very worst in the town. One of the ladies declared her girl was too grand to eat apple-parings done in fat for her supper; another avowed that hers had been very impudent, and had threatened to go to the police if she would not let her have a fire to sit by, though she was sure the winter was very mild. And when such subjects had been exhausted, the lady of the house, as a great treat, produced her new bonnet, that had been made and trimmed exactly after the Princess's last; for the head-woman of Her Royal Highness's milliner was closely related to her, and so she could always depend upon having the most stylish things. The supper-parties that are occasionally given are but little more refined or amusing than the above—the style of entertainment being about as elegant as those cheap and not particularly toothsome meals furnished at our *à-la-mode* beef houses. Dinner-parties, such as are usual in England, are never indulged in; for an entertainment like our Lord Mayor's banquet would reduce the Prussian government itself to bankruptcy. Private balls are almost unknown—a few only being given between Christmas and Lent. The 'Commandirinde-General,' however (being allowed a small sum for official entertainments), has a few 'receptions' in the course of the year. The style of such parties may be judged from the fact, that on one occasion, when the cake was brought into the room, the servant accidentally let it slip from the plate: whereupon the pieces were duly collected from the uncarpeted floor, and the dirty fragments handed round to the company."

The Alsatian capital shines out in Mr. Birket Foster's sketch with the clear, deep, cool light of a Canaletti. The quaint gables with the mortar crumbling off the stunted trees old and decrepit in the Dutch-like market-place, the flakes of light on the water, and the thunder-clouds darkening "the drunken light" about the spire are finely and broadly given. We pass on to the town of Erasmus and Holbein, religious Basle, with its long, low bridge glistening in the morning mist, and the fishermen hanging out their arched nets,—turn to Eggenau on the skirts of the Black Forest, from which we emerge by a zigzag road along the river-side, where a scarf of mist is falling loosely from the brown oak-clad hills. At Schaffhausen there is no need to delay. The Lake of Constance and Lindau are examples of unusual beauty and tenderness. To the artistic portion of the work we have nothing to except. It is perfect. Of the old-world civilization still prevalent take a few examples.—

"There crawls past our window the same ox-wagon as the people used when the Romans were here teaching them the arts of civilised life; and if we walked down to the Rhine we should see the very same rude, square-bowed boats that Germanicus originally taught them to build—now nearly 1800 years ago! Their ploughs, too, remain to this day the models of the old Roman '*aratra*;

and even the 'Haar-nadels' and 'Runde-mützes' worn by the peasant women on the banks of the Middle-Rhine are merely the remains of the old Roman fashions. Hence, with the Rhenish people, the world seems to have stood still since the time of Tiberius, or at least, Charlemagne. 'But have the Coblenz people no gas in their streets?' it may be asked.—'Yes, they have,' is the reply; 'but a Frenchman manufactures it for them.'—'Have they no steam-engines?'—'Certainly; but they are all constructed in England.' Their steam-vessels are built by English shipwrights. Their railways, again, are cut by English navigators, and managed by English directors; their mines are almost all worked by Englishmen; and Englishmen, too, are mostly at the head of their factories. Indeed, the German mind is naturally so slow, and the people so innately averse to any land-conveyance that travels at a quicker pace than an aged cow, or to any vessel that cuts through the water at a more rapid rate than a Dutch 'trekschuit,' that at the last Revolution the populace fired at the steam-tugs as they passed up the Rhine, and we were credibly assured, that should another such outbreak take place, every engine in the land would be destroyed. Now, did you ever happen, sapient reader—we suppose we must call you so—to see a fire in any of the German towns? Were you ever roused from your slumbers in the dead of the night by the 'Nacht-wacht' who sits perched up in the church-steeple, bellowing with his horn through the air like some spectral bull? Did you ever hear the watchman, who ordinarily whistles the hour through the streets at night time, roar 'heraus,' as he banged the shutters of all the houses in the street?—for in this most scientific country there are neither knockers nor bells to the doors; no! nor any fire-brigade connected with the town—every citizen being compelled by law to assist at the extinction of the flames! Did you ever, at such a time, hasten to the burning house, and witness the wonderful scientific attainments of these highly-educated Deutchers? Have you seen them, as we have, bring the water in barrels from the river side!—the nation of *savans* having neither mains in the street nor cisterns in the houses? Have you ever heard of whole towns being destroyed owing to the defective appliances throughout Germany upon these matters—as well as the utter ignorance of the people who were to throw the thimbleful of water that they bring, one by one, to the spot? Did you ever read that it was an English engineer (Mr. Lindley) who extinguished the great fire at Hamburg, after the poor, simple Germans, had let it burn on for three days and nights, destroying nearly 2,000 houses, and upwards of sixty streets? Let us add, too, that at the time the Coblenz prison was on fire, it was the English chaplain who stayed the ravages of the flames, as was testified by the public thanks of the town voted him in consequence. And we ourselves have been forced to show these wisacres how to act on a similar occasion. In fine it may be said, without injustice to the nation, that the peculiar complexion of the German mind is of that childish or simperonic quality which English young gentlemen delight to denominate as 'verdant,' and that often their acknowledged *savans* devote their whole lives to the study of the most frivolous subjects. Once we were introduced to a German *Weiser*, who, a Teutonic friend assured us, bore a high reputation in the Rhenish provinces. We naturally begged to be informed to what point of science he directed his attention. Was it Astronomy, we wondered, by which he sought to fathom the infinite ocean of space? Or was it Geology that he studied, in order to read the wondrous story of creation graven on the everlasting tablets of the rocks? Or was it Physiology that he was striving to unriddle, so as to get even a glimpse into the profound mysteries of life and organism? or Chemistry? or Mechanics? or Botany? No! it was none of these. Neither the stars, nor the rocks, nor the flowers, nor human life interested him: only—*Cockchafers!* He was, we were assured, the greatest 'Coleopterist'—or rather cockchafferist, in all the world.

Here are some matrimonial arrangements.—"Among the customs peculiar to the time of courtship, we may mention that it is usual for

lovers to tie large bunches of hawthorn to the windows of their sweethearts on the 1st of May. Those young ladies, however, who have not yet been fortunate enough to have obtained an offer, get a few handfuls of chaff strewn by the spiteful or the jocular over their thresholds; and it is by no means uncommon for the fair creatures who are thus treated to take the hawthorn from the casements of their rivals in the night, and, tying them to the sash of their own, to oblige them with some of their chaff in return,—a custom which may probably have given rise to our vulgar idiom of 'chaffing' an old maid. It is customary also for swains to go to the windows of their fiancées, and, firing off a pistol, to wish them a happy new year. The term of betrothal is of different durations. In some cases it lasts only for a short period; but in others it continues for many years. It is frequently the custom for a lady to be betrothed to a young man filling some subordinate situation under government, upon the understanding that they are not to be married until the youth's salary reaches an amount that is deemed sufficient for the maintenance of the pair. Officers, again, are often betrothed during their ensigncy, though everyone in Prussia knows that the full-grown 'children in arms' are not allowed to marry until they reach the rank of captain,—unless, indeed, they be able to deposit the sum of 12,000 thalers (about 1,800*l.*), in the hands of the government; the interest of which is, under such circumstances, duly paid to the little boy for the maintenance of his wife. The State, however, does not limit its paternal care to officers alone; it has a like regard for the interests of all persons of limited means, and will not allow them to commit matrimony until they can give good evidence that they have the wherewithal to support a family. In Coblenz, for instance, no one can become a Benedict unless he can purchase his citizenship. This, a little while ago, cost only 8 thalers (about 24*s.*); but the poorer families were found to increase so rapidly at these moderate terms, that the richer determined upon raising the purchase-money for the city-freedom to 36 thalers (upwards of 5 guineas), so as to offer every obstruction they could to marriages among the humbler portion of the community."

Altogether this is among the best gift-books of the season.

Merrie England: its Sports and Pastimes. By Lord William Lennox. (Newby.)
The Sporting World. By Harry Hieover. (Newby.)

HERE are Lord and Yeoman in the field, each pursuing or chatting about his favourite sport; and the yeoman proving himself rather the better man of the two. "My Lord" discusses the Queen's stag-hounds, tells the adventures of hares, foxes, and pheasants; and gossips over and around the various subjects of sporting generally, of yachting, shooting, hunting, fishing, fighting, racing, coursing, and archery. These subjects are not treated in a genuine sportsman-like style. There is an evident straining to be jolly. The enthusiasm is painfully piled up; the volume altogether has a look and odour of book-making; and there is nothing in it of the hearty tone of one who has faith in his own assurance. The style, too, is pretentious, whether it affects to be dignified or familiar; and the very courtly phrases applied to illustrious individuals must rather be offensive than gratifying to them. These phrases recall to our mind the olden times when dedications were worth a brace or so of guineas, and when authors stood as clients praising their haughty patrons for their pay. These phrases and praises sound almost satirical, though we do not impugn the sincerity of the author, or deny the lustre of the shrine before which he is prostrate. But this is an old-world fashion, now obsolete, and probably the personages for whom it is revived would be the last to feel

rejoiced at the resuscitation of an old mode. We are all loyal, but we do not sing 'God save the Queen' while topping a fence. It is not necessary to tell us, *a propos* to stag-hounds, of a Royal Lady who is "the love of millions"; nor should we think the better of a gamekeeper in a covert who should exclaim in the same breath, "Mark, cock! Fear God, honour the Queen!"

Lord William has something of this tendency in him; and we advise him to do away with it as soon as possible. It leads him, besides, into assertions that we cannot accept. Such is his superfluous testimonial to the alleged fact of the Prince Consort being a true British sportsman. Such an idea never presented itself to any other man, perhaps least of all to the amiable and respectable Prince himself, who is a gentleman sportsman, alternating sport with serious duties (not making it the business of his life), and getting through it as if there were less enjoyment therein than in graver business more congenial with his tastes, habits, and abilities. We advise Lord William to remember the worshipper of Jupiter who sent up so much incense to the Olympian that the King of Gods and Men was sick of it. The worshipper was sincere, but indiscreet. *Ne quid nimis* is an adage to be borne in mind by every man, whether he be about to compliment princes, lecture to an audience, bore the public, or review a book.

This apart, with good intent to my Lord, we take him by the hand and let him speak to all who will listen.—

"The old adage, that 'doctors disagree,' need not exclusively be applied to the Æsculapian profession, for there is no subject upon which there is more difference of opinion than among sportsmen, especially upon the merits of gunmakers. You hear one declare that Manton is the only man that can turn out a perfect piece of ordnance; another tells you that the Lancasterian system is the best; a third contends that Purdey; a fourth Egg; a fifth for Moore; and last, not least, Westley Richards has a list of patrons second to none in quantity and quality, with a legion of others 'too numerous,' as the newspaper says, 'for this advertisement.' The late James Smith immortalized two of the above in an epigram which runs as follows:—

Two of a trade can ne'er agree;
Each worries each, while
In Manton and in Egg we see
This proverb proved no fable.
Both famed for guns, whose loud report
Confirms the fact I'm broaching—
Manton's the best for lawful sport;
But Egg's are best for Poaching!

—To prove the quickness of this talented author of the 'Rejected Addresses,' I will mention the circumstance as it occurred. I was dining in company with James Smith, when some one asked him, 'Whose are the best guns?' He responded, 'As I know nothing about shooting, and never shot anything in my life except London Bridge, you must give me the names.' They were repeated, and almost every man called for some punning remark, *sotto voce*—'Knock!—Knock 'em down! No. Lancaster!—Red-deer—Red-foes, or rose! No. Moore!—the moors. No. Egg!—oh! I have it—eggs for poaching!' He then called for a pen and ink, and off-hand wrote the eight pointed lines I have quoted."

And here is a story of one who is the hero of many.—

"During the palmy days of Crockford's Club in St. James's Street, when the culinary department was under the direction of that immortal chef, Louis Eustache Ude, a truly popular Scotch nobleman, since taken away by death, dined in the coffee-room about the first week in August; and, among other delicacies, a young grouse was served. To a 'canny Scot' and a sportsman, such an open defiance of the game laws was intolerable; the bird was sent away, and the *cordons bleu* was compelled to make his appearance at the police court the next morning, to answer the charge of the

Marquis of —, for having thus forestalled the 12th. A suitable admonition from the magistrate, and a small fine for this, the first (proved) offence, was the result. Upon the same day the noble lord again dined at the club; and on thoroughly scrutinizing the bill of fare, found that the illegal luxury had been erased from it. As he was about to sit down, a friend came in, and proposed joining tables. This was agreed to; and orders were given to the waiter to serve the two dinners together. A very careful observer might have perceived that something untoward had occurred, from the anxiety of the attendant, himself a Frenchman, and his master, Louis le Grand. The soup and fish were removed, and two *entrées* were placed on the board. 'I have ordered a *suprême de volaille*,' said the Marquis; 'and I,' responded his companion, 'am about to try a dish I never heard of before. I forget its name. Waiter, bring me the bill of fare!' The covers were taken off, and the olfactory senses of the northern laird soon told him the nature of the dish. 'Why, it's a *salmi* of grouse!' he shouted, with an exclamation that his friend the magistrate would have fined him five shillings for in the morning. 'It's not down in the bill of fare; let me see.' The fatal paper was handed to him by the terrified Ude, who now approached the table. 'Why, what's this?' said the Marquis. '*Salmi de fruit défendu*.' The chef was silent, looked unutterable things, and merely shrugged up his shoulders. Whether the ingenuity of the artist who had suggested this new gastronomic appellation, or the remembrance of his past services *dans la secance [sic] de gueule*, produced a favourable effect upon the complainant, I know not; suffice it to say, a good-humoured smile played upon his countenance as he remarked: 'Well, Ude, I presume this is part of the bird of yesterday; but recollect, in future, no forbidden fruit must be plucked before the lawful day.'

We confess we are surprised that Ude did not deceive the Scottish lord, and make his grouse take any flavour he chose. "Argilla quidvis imitaberis *ada*."

Harry Hieover's book is in marked contrast with my Lord's. Reading it is like listening lazily and luxuriously after dinner to a quiet, gentlemanlike, clever talker, who starts off from reminiscences of the run of the morning to talking generally and pleasantly on sporting in all its branches,—save angling, for which Harry has profound contempt, unless he might bob for whale! Here is a sample of Mr. Hieover's "talk."

"In those days a hunting man, that is, most hunting men, would no more have dreamt of buying a racehorse to make a hunter of than they would a red deer. They were quite aware of the racehorse's powers of speed, but in such days such speed was uncalled for, it never struck them that the same powers of motion that enables the racehorse at speed to clear, for we will say two hundred yards, twenty-four or five feet at each stroke, and for a few strides even more than that, would enable him to take a brook of a width our good ancestors seldom ever contemplated the riding at; they seemed to consider that a horse could clear little more than a space that enabled him to bring his extended forefeet to the ground pretty nearly at the moment his hind legs left it. The intermediate space that his bound carries him over when actually in the air, was unknown. It is the thorough-bred, or a cross very close upon it, that has shown us the astonishing elasticity of such horses. The consciousness of such powers in the high-bred horse induce him to face such obstacles without hesitation, while an equal consciousness of the want of it deters the lower bred animal from making the attempt. I have more than once or twice seen a cart-horse, when hounds were running, take the gate of the farm yard; this he could manage, it required more strength than bound; but having done so, the first fence of any size or width stopped him at once. In jumping the gate he had his hind legs on the ground till near the moment when his fore feet came down; but the idea of trusting his august body in the air seemed

not to have ever been contemplated in his 'philosophy.' I think, if my memory serves me, that Hambletonian in his race with Diamond is reported to have very nearly cleared a hundred feet in the last three strokes at the finish. One would be inclined to say, as Jem Hills the huntsman did, on seeing a stag take a tremendous bound at a fence, 'What a magnificent jumper, how I should like to ride him.' So, if Hambletonian cleared thirty odd feet in his gallop, we may infer what a leaper he would have been if practised at it."

In this style Harry goes on through nearly three hundred pages. He always seems young, just contrary to what he asserts of those who hunt packs of harriers, who are old men, and whom nobody remembers young. A good sample of this individual was the everlasting Rip van Winkle of a huntsman who used to manage the Boroughbridge harriers. Mounted on Chester Billy, for that high-mettled racer came to such a destiny, the rider looked like grandfather to Mr. Widdicombe, who was himself supposed to have first seen the light about the time of Ahasuerus!

An Account of Church Bells; with some Notices of Wiltshire Bells and Bell-founders, &c. By Rev. William C. Lukis, M.A. (J. H. Parker.)

THERE is hardly a musical subject which has a more picturesque, more universal, or more various interest than that monotone, the Bell. Let it be taken or treated as anyone shall please:—whether by the man of science acoustically, or by the lecturer on Art pictorially, or by the poet suggestively, the treatment of it is endless in its vibrations and changes, fraught with a thousand different inspirations, and appealing to as many different emotions.—A Bell is not a solitary disconnected sound; it may be a tongue, rallying many under the influence of some general appeal, or else one of a quire, making that sort of strange, wordless music aloft and from afar, which says more than formal call to lament or to rejoice would do. Think of the talk about bells, chimed by poets of every country, and every colour, and every age!—whether the same sound in Giotto's inlaid marble tower at Florence—or in the sterner *Campanile* at Venice, from whence the old Foscarini heard the death-note of his son tolled out,—whether they be those

—cymbals glorious

Swinging uprations

In the gorgeous turrets of Notre Dame,

cared for by *Quasimodo*, which rang, as elder Romance asserts, when Michael Scott waved his magic wand in "Salamanca's cave,"—whether they be such as the bell which tolled in

The windowless, deformed, and dreary pile,

past which *Julian* and *Maddalo* rode,—whether they be those weaker, more measured creatures, the slow ringing round of which adds such a charm to the peacefulness of some nook of inland England on a Sabbath morning!—There is no end to the changes which could be rung on the theme,—and "the Poetry of the Bell," beginning with Schiller's immortal song, returning to Milton, taking in Kirke White, and Moore and Byron, and Mrs. Browning's burden to "Duchess May," and a hundred more of the moderns, would, if collected, make about as resonant a book of rhyme as can speak to hearts, and ears, and sympathies. Let it be recommended to some one in want of a text to be garnished with illustrations.

Mr. Lukis, however, must not be kept waiting in the belfry any longer. His volume is full of curious matter,—pleasant to dream over as well as valuable to those collecting tintinnabular facts. His style is quaint, but not unmusical. The divisions of his subject are eleven (there should have been a

divisible number, by the way, to make a complete peal), beginning with 'Belfries: their Condition and the Causes of their Frequent Dilapidation.' Something more might have been made of this subject in an architectural point of view. It might have been pointed out how, by false original construction or inadvertent repair, the sound is shut up tight in the belfry of England, as compared with the foreign *Campanile*, where the large arched openings afford the amplest exit for the sound,—and possibly, moreover, limit the tremendous vibration produced "by the wild somersaults of change-ringers," which, as Mr. Lukis has pointed out, are often so loosening to the masonry. Our author, however, is emphatic on the perpetual care which bells require,—and complains of Wiltshire bell-lofts as too often "in a shameful state of filth and neglect."

"Why [says he] should towers be so desecrated? Are they not as much a portion of the church as any other part? Why should they be left to the sole occupation of unclean birds, and profane and irreverent ringers?"

Clause No. 2 of the discourse of Mr. Lukis is devoted to 'Bell Founders and Foundries.' The number of these will surprise those to whom the statistics of the subject are new. Our author, within the limits of his research, has a list of upwards of 150 founders, "collected chiefly from inscriptions on bells," and forty-seven foundries. He believes, as a Wiltshire clergyman should, that Wiltshire men were peculiarly eminent in this craft. Richard Phelps, of Whitechapel, "who cast the great clock bell of St. Paul's Cathedral, weighing nearly four tons," was a native of Avebury. Mr. Lukis believes that a famous bell-foundry existed at Salisbury for a considerable period, during part of which it was presided over by J. Wallis. "He seems" (to quote the essay) "to have been a man of few words, but of great deeds." The bells of Wallis were in great request,—but the epigraphs on them, mostly holy words, were as brief as could be, merely such injunctions as "Give alms," "Hope well," &c. The Purdues, who succeeded Wallis as founders, were more worldly in their letterings, principally "giving the names of churchwardens and clergymen." The Rudhalls, Gloucestershire founders of renown, were "Church and State people," who expressed loyalty and obedience on their bells, and sometimes monumental flattery, as, for instance, on the "tenor at Bath Abbey, which is 59½ inches diameter, weighs two tons, and bears this inscription—

All you of Bath that hear me sound
Thank Lady Hopton's hundred pound."

As we have got by accident into the region of rhymes, devices, and mottoes, we will remain there for awhile,—indicating merely that the intermediate portions of the Essay of Mr. Lukis—which touch such scientific points as form, quality of metal, machinery for swinging and for ringing—contain much curious matter.—Now for a few of the mottoes and devices, in the quaintness of which the metallic heralds up in the Tower rival the silent stones which close over the coffin lid, in aisle or churchyard far below.—

"At Devizes, St. Mary, on the treble is:—

I am the first, altho' but small
I will be heard above you all."

"On a bell at Alderton is:—

I'm given here to make a peal
And sound the praise of Mary Neale."

"A fire-bell (cast in 1652) in the church of Sherborne has:—

Lord! quench this furious flame:—
Arise, run, help, put out the same."

"On the tenor at St. Benet's, Cambridge, is:—
John Draper made me in 1618 as plainly doth appear,
This bell was broke and cast againe wih tyne churchwardens were

Edward Dixon for the one whose stode close to his tacklin,
And he that was his partner then was Alexander Tacklyn."

"Normanton-on-Soar.
I sweetly tolling men do call
To taste on meate that feeds the soule. 1631."

Very sententious and dubiously grammatical are the ten bells in New College, Oxford.—

- "1. Manners maketh man. A.R. 1712.—
2. Manners maketh man. W.W. 1712.—3. 5.
8. 10. Michael Darbie made me. W.W. 1665.—
4. Manners maketh man. A.R. 1703.—
6. Henry Knight of Reading made me. 1672.—
7. Prosperity to New College. A.R. 1712.—
9. Manners maketh man. A.R. 1723."

St. Giles's bells, in the same old town, are decked out, as is more becoming, with Latin mottoes.—The most talkative, however, of the fraternity, so far as we have examined, seems to reside in St. Mungo's capital, for this is a motto in—

"Glasgow Cathedral.—On the Great Bell: In the year of grace 1583, Marcus Knox, a merchant in Glasgow, zealous for the interest of the Reformed Religion, caused me to be fabricated in Holland for the use of his fellow-citizens of Glasgow, and placed me with solemnity in the Tower of their Cathedral. My function was announced by the impress on my bosom: 'Me audito venias doctrinam sanctam ut discas,' and I was taught to proclaim the hours of unheeded time. 195 years had sounded these awful warnings when I was broken by the hands of inconsiderate and unskillful men. In the year 1790, I was cast into the furnace, re-founded at London, and returned to my sacred vocation. Reader! thou also shalt know a resurrection; may it be to eternal life. Thomas Mears fecit, London, 1790."

The ninth division of this racy and interesting Essay would serve as matter for an article, since it touches on bell ringing and ringers. But these last are anything rather than such grave persons as those listened to by the poetess, when she began her wild ballad with this striking verse,—

In the belfry one by one went the ringers from the sun,
"Toll slowly."
And the oldest ringer said, "Our's is music for the Dead
When the rebeck's all are done."

Whatever the practitioners of permutation may have been in old time, Mr. Lukis speaks of them now "as among the respectable characters of almost every parish,"—as "sets of men who ring for what they can get, which they consume in drink,"—mere "mercenary performers," &c. Even so far back as the days when Paul Hentzner described England bell-ringers were generically somewhat of roisterers, only to be kept in order by strict codes of discipline.—

"Rules for ringers have always been considered necessary, and sometimes ancient ones in rhyme are preserved in belfries; e.g. in the church of North Parret, Somersetshire, are the following curious lines:—

He that in ringing takes delight,
And to this place draws near,
These articles set in his sight
Must keep, if he rings here.

The first he must observe with care;
Who comes within the door,
Must if he chance to curse or swear,
Pay Sixpence to the poor.

And whose'er a noise does make,
Or idle story tells,
Must Sixpence to the ringers take
For mending of the bells.

Young men that come to see and try,
And do not ringing use,
Must Sixpence give the company,
And that shall them excuse.

He that his hat on's head does keep,
Within this sacred place,
Must pay his Sixpence ere he sleep,
Or turn out with disgrace.

If any one with spurs to's heels
Rings here at any time,
He must for breaking articles
Pay Sixpence for his crime.

If any overthrow a bell;
As that perchance he may,
Because he minds not ringing well,
He must his Sixpence pay.

Or if a noble-minded man
Comes here to ring a bell,
A taster is the sexton's fee
Who keeps the church so well.

Whoever breaks an Article,
Or duty does neglect,
Must never meddle with a bell,
The rope will him correct."

Mr. Lukis closes this section of his subject with hints for measures which, he thinks, would encourage a more serious spirit among bell-ringers, too limiting and sectarian in their full extent to suit us—though there is nothing more in them than the natural earnestness of a divine in love with his subject, and contented with his own church. His book is, indeed, singularly free from that jangling of sweet bells out of tune, which bears the unlovely name of "*odium theologicum*." It is one which deserves a place of its own in the library, whether of architect, antiquary, or musician.

Jewish Literature from the Eighth to the Eighteenth Century, with an Introduction on Talmud and Midrash: a Historical Essay. From the German of M. Steinschneider, Revised throughout by the Author. (Longman & Co.)

"THERE are three crowns—that of the Priesthood, that of Royalty, and that of the Thora (Learning); but of these the crown of Learning surpasses the others." So thought the Rabbins, and so taught they the people. Study was their great object in life, a religious duty and the path to distinction. Parents deemed it the highest privilege to devote their sons to the learned profession, or to ally their daughters to one or other of the intellectual aristocracy. In course of time the views which had formerly prevailed as to the learning of the Gentiles became enlarged. Theology—or rather religious casuistry and canon-law—was no longer the sole or main branch of study pursued. Jewish historians, geographers, poets, grammarians, philosophers, moralists, physicians, and mathematicians composed original works in Hebrew, Arabic, or in other languages. The works of Gentiles—even portions of Patristic literature—were also introduced for the use of the synagogue. Theology itself lost some of its stiffness and formalism by contact with other branches of science and with literature. A large mass of writings on almost every subject was accumulated, the very existence of which has hitherto been almost unknown to the general reader. Yet we venture to assert that a more vigorous intellectual life can scarcely be conceived than that of the Jews, not only during the golden period of their comparative prosperity, but even during the darkest ages of persecution.

We gladly welcome, therefore, any attempt to make us better acquainted with the peculiar mental characteristics, and with the literature of that remarkable people. The field is very much a *terra incognita*, and we are willing to commit ourselves to the guidance of any one who unites the needful learning—not a small demand in this instance—with sufficient descriptive powers. Most attempts at a "History of Jewish Literature" have hitherto failed from a want of either the one or the other of these requisites. A mere literary chronicle, however accurate, creditable to the learning of the writer, and useful to the student, will not inform or interest the general reader. Of this we have been again and again reminded, when perusing Mr. Steinschneider's essay, first in German and now in its English version. Originally written for Ersch and Gruber's Encyclopædia (in which it appeared as the article '*Jüdische Literatur*,' Vol. xxvii.), it probably owes the honour of a translation fully as much

to the fact, that it is the only reliable source of information accessible on the subject, as to the learning which it embodies. Since its first appearance in German, Mr. Steinschneider has been chiefly engaged in arranging and cataloguing the Hebrew books in the Bodleian, which, in this branch of literature, is undoubtedly the first library in the world. His researches there have enabled him to make in this translation (which has been submitted to him for revision) numerous additions and emendations. Still, with all these improvements, we cannot but regret that the author had not carried out his original intention of enlarging and recasting the article itself before sanctioning its translation. What is suited for an article in a great work of reference, such as Ersch and Gruber's—where we expect the greatest possible amount of accurate and profound learning compressed into the least possible space—is not necessarily best adapted for general use in the shape of a manual. Mr. Steinschneider's essay is a perfect storehouse of Jewish learning; at the same time the most accurate and the most satisfactory treatise on the subject with which we are acquainted. As such, every student of Jewish literature has consulted it in its original, and will find it still more useful in the present enlarged and improved form. But for general purposes, and to be as attractive and instructive as the subject might be, and as the learned author could render it, we desiderate a more full, a more connected, and a more lively account.

Mr. Steinschneider discusses Jewish literature under three periods:—The first commences from the time of Ezra and extends to that "when the influence of Arabian philosophy began to be felt and Europe first appeared on the scene." During its course, theology was the main if not the sole object of study, and Judaism in its present form became stereotyped. The second period comprises the golden age of Jewish literature, when studies of all kinds were carried on in various languages and countries. It terminates with the expulsion of the Jews from Spain. The third is a period of decay, in which the peculiarly Jewish elements gradually disappear. It extends to the time of the well-known philosopher, Mendelssohn. After that commences a fourth and a most interesting period of transition, which, however (being as yet incomplete), is not described in this essay. Under each period the various branches of literature are discussed, the various writers enumerated, and their productions briefly criticized. Most valuable Notes, and a Hebrew and an Arabic Index render the work all that a student could desire. For behoof of the general reader we shall, however, continue to cherish the hope that a more full and detailed manual may yet appear from the same pen. In that case we would also recommend that the translation should be entrusted to one thoroughly competent for such a task, who will present the work in more intelligible and readable language than that of the present essay, which is so painfully literal as to be almost always inelegant and at times can only be understood by re-translating the English into German.

Letters from Cannes and Nice. By Margaret Maria Brewster. Illustrated by a Lady. (Edinburgh, Constable & Co.; London, Hamilton & Co.)

It would seem from late movements as if the "Brunnen" had had their day, and as if the English seekers of watering-places were trying Vichy and Plombières, and Aix in Savoy; or if on salt baths bent, Royan, Biarritz, and Arcachon. That there is a fashion in cures

as well as in diseases is a fact which will say much to those desirous of really testing the value of this or the other place of healing. In days of old, Bath and Tunbridge sufficed for such invalids as now threaten to die if they cannot get at Recoaro, or Putbus, or Mehadia. When the "Leviathan" becomes one of a fleet, our Bloomsbury ladies may take up Saratoga, and hail the Atlantic voyage as the preliminary part of "the treatment." So be it:—for were we disposed to complain of the increased scope and ambition of modern restlessness, the lamentation would be fruitless and ridiculous. Therefore, let us rejoice when any delicate gentlewoman orders herself, or is ordered, away to any spring, volcano side, grotto, or shore which is comparatively unknown; since, probably, she will keep a journal, as Miss (?) Brewster has here done, and if such journal has been kept she will assuredly print the same. There are delicate gentlewomen of many humours,—some confidential to the clergyman; others, like the *ex-beauty* in 'Dombey,' whose uppermost thought when they have a fit is "rose-coloured curtains for the doctor"! and the journal will be also pious, picturesque, poetical, or playful, as the mood is. Miss Brewster is all four. Her book is amusing, but affected; and that is the fault of it. We imagine by the list of works on the title-page, and also from the manner of the "Letters," themselves, that we have to do with an authoress of serious little tales. There is conscious writing, indeed, in every page, from the time when the lady stopped at Tonnerre, and sketched "dear old Marie, the quaint ancient *fille de chambre*," to her account of the last visit paid by her to "Henry Brougham in his Southern home," where "that brilliant mind created its brilliancies"! The following passage contains as much picture as any other in the volume;—the date is from a resting-place near Nice:—

"Maison Reynaud, April 7.—I have been settled in these comfortable lodgings for some days. My sitting-room is papered and furnished with the brightest yellow, which has a peculiar effect upon the complexions of myself and my visitors! At almost all hours of the day, a continued sing-song sort of muttering may be heard from the little entrance lobby, or sometimes from the commencement of the stair; there is a pleasing variety of tone occasionally, but the burden of the melody seems always the same. It proceeds from a succession of beggars, who take up their station and their song in hopes of melting some of the hearts in the three flats! They are not always contented with such a lowly position, however. One day my sitting-room door bounced open, and in flew a very well-dressed little girl, but with the ugliest, dirtiest face I ever saw. She said, in the most authoritative manner, 'Mon papa demande quelque chose.' I naturally inquired who 'son papa' could possibly be? and she jabbered something about 'La musique de mon papa,' which recalled to my recollection a certain scraping, squeaking noise which had been going on for a long time that morning. She vanished, apparently quite satisfied with her successful levy of 'black mail,' in the shape of two sous. We have other sounds than these. I have been greatly puzzled by a strange noise which I have often heard lately; it takes every possible variety and locality of sound. Perhaps you think it is something in your ears, and shake your head ruefully—no, it is not there; or you think it is a kettle singing furiously, but there is not a kettle to sing, so it can't be that; well, then, it must be the lamp that has gone wrong, but the lamp indignantly repels the accusation by burning more brightly and steadily than before. Sometimes it seems to come down the chimney; sometimes it seems to be in that corner of the room, sometimes in the other; sometimes to be at the window, sometimes close to your ear, sometimes a mile off. Sometimes it is so like a 'caw, caw,' that I have fancied myself in the dear old rookery at W., before

the Goths and Vandals invaded it. At other times it is like cats, or babies, or donkeys, or peacocks, or any unmusical sound your imagination can supply; and very frequently it is like the ringing of small bells. All these various noises proceed from a colony of frogs very near the house; and the variety of tone is not so much owing to the different kinds, as to their different ages and dispositions. There are beautiful little green frogs found here, but I do not know what part in the concert they take—they are not very common; of course their beauty consists in colouring, not in countenance or gait. It is only at first that one can trace any resemblance between frog and rook concerts; there is a sad want of mind and music in the sweet discouragements of the former, and one never would imagine that the frogs were having a tea-party, a funeral, or a meeting of parliament like the good old rooks. The more I see of the walks or rides near this, the more I am struck by their Scotchness. I took a walk the other night in a little valley of pines and rocks and heather, which might have been a Highland dell any day. Yes! we have heather and broom here, but the heather is not quite that of bonnie Scotland. It is a tall, bushy shrub, with large branches, covered thick with the tiniest little white bells, lined with black velvet, and giving out a rich, heavy odour which some people cannot bear in a room, though it is delicious out of doors. Neither is the broom 'the broom of the Cowdenknocks,'—neither so golden nor so beautiful, though it bears a sufficient resemblance to tantalize home-sick eyes. Some rather peculiar inhabitants of this picturesque valley were decidedly not Scotch, but cousins-german of Madame Tussaud. The *propriétaire*, wishing to have some one to whom he could say 'How sweet is solitude,' without the trouble of a reply, has stationed gaily-dressed figures the size of life, wooden, I suppose, in the most conspicuous position. See! there is a very smart gentleman in a bright blue coat and top-boots and cocked hat, waving a drawn sword over the pines; while another, still more gaily clad, ruralizes in that clump of trees; and another, in a somewhat Eastern-looking garb, keeps guard at the topmost point de vue. How odd and incongruous they do look, just when one was beginning to fancy one's self in Scotland too! At the entrance of the valley of the figures, there are two curious large deep wells, cut out of the solid rock about fifty years ago, with pretty trees drooping over them."

To prove that we are not merciless in our epithet, we will show what can befall an authoress who orders dinner at Nice.—

"February 21.—The *cuisine* here is our weakest point. At first it consisted of grease, pure and unmitigated, so I resolved to try the nearest restaurant, which was two miles off;—very small, very costly, very cold, very peculiar in hue—a happy combination of snuff colour and neutral tint—were our dinners. So I gave that up, and descended into the kitchen with considerable dignity, to instruct old Marie in the art of boiling a chicken *à la mouton*, after a fashion I remembered in the palmy days of the Château Ste.-Marguerite. The chicken was rather a triumph; that is to say—though it did not look in the least like a boiled chicken—there was no grease. The *mouton*, to be sure, came up like a soup gone deranged; but, on the whole, I was looking forward with complacency to teaching the old idea how to cook for the remainder of my stay, when a good angel appeared in the shape of a very fat, kind Italian man-cook, belonging to an English neighbour. He was horrified at our forlorn condition, and carried off with him a gigot of mutton. That gigot of mutton had been upon my mind for a long time,—what was to be done with it? There was no spit, there was no oven; even if it could have been coaxed into the stew-pan, it must have remained there like the ornaments suspended in bottles. Yesterday, I assure you, my feelings bordered on ecstasy when that leg of mutton made its appearance roasted, yes, actually roasted! This cook is to roast a chicken another day, and a piece of beef another, and his name is Achilles!"

Persons who find such details instructive, and the manner of their narrator sprightly,

will enjoy this book. We ought to state that it is free from the offence of uncharitableness, and, considering that it is the work of a busy Protestant lady well at ease with herself, who has perpetually to treat of the ways and works of Roman Catholicism, such praise is not despicable.—The illustrations are as poor lithographs as can be.

World-noted Women; or, Types of Womanly Attributes of all Lands and Ages. By Mary Cowden Clarke. Illustrated by Charles Staal. (New York, Appleton & Co.; London, Trübner & Co.)

'WORLD-NOTED WOMEN'!—what a throng of marvellous faces does the title of this aureate Transatlantic volume light up!—what queenly figures sail forth beside ponderous pyramids,—what luscious shoulders peep from behind sunlit colonnades, or bold black eyes mock, and lustrous feet seduce, frail schoolmen amid the yellow parchment rolls of history,—what sweet saints slip noiselessly off from the initial letters of blue and golden missals and become bone of our sinful bone and flesh of our corruptible flesh,—what handsome large-eyed barbarians look down on ignorant artists, and teach them non-academic lessons in the grammar of comparative beauty! Yet, with a catholic admiration for all fair women, of whom, possibly from having Chaucer and Tennyson at hand, on more than one sunny afternoon we have had our dreams, we can by no means confess to a liking for "*women of all ages*," whether world-noted or otherwise; and to the attributes of some among the list of world-noted women we do emphatically object. The enormous improprieties which world-noted women must commit, for or against husbands, lovers, or other women,—the divine rages they are expected to be equal to,—the domestic duels they must fight,—the friends they must dispose of,—and, in fact, the breaches of the Decalogue,—or, to use an American expression, "the difficulties" they must arrange, in order to be anyway grand or magnificent,—make the chapter of world-famous women not one of our most favourite historical chapters. Eastern ladies, such as Semiramis, Zenobia, Athalie, "the lady of Tyre and Sidon," are simply Milton's

Women to the waist, and fair,
But ended foul with many a scaly hood,
Voluminous and vast.

The English lady whose gorgeous Transatlantic tome now illuminates our table (a lady world-noted for her Shakspearian piety) has done an arduous work well. She has culled through the beauty, the heroism, the love, the frailty, the suicidal passion, and the wild untutored courtesy, the pure unselfish religion, of women of many lands, and made a dainty pleasure-garden out of their looks. Here be imperial lilies, and lilies of the valley, lilies dashed with tears, and some with drops less pure and less pale,—lilies of France, lilies of Spain, an Indian wind-flower, and a flower or two that, grown in any land, and in any world, smells immortal by whatever name you call it. The book begins with a type of love and closes with a type of pious duty. From Sappho, who leads the choir of world-noted women, to Florence Nightingale, who concludes it, there are two millenniums and a half, in the course of which Mrs. Cowden Clarke only obtains seventeen celebrities. Her plan of selection in some degree restricted her, but we could have spared some and would willingly have admitted others into the list. Besides, can any of Mrs. Cowden Clarke's celebrities be exactly called typical or representative women? Is not planetary, ec-

centric, exceptional, rather the term to be employed?

Not isolated from, but related to us, these women, who loved well, if not over wisely, whose voluptuous lips chattered empires, altered dynasties, and made or unmade the happiness of continents,—these queens, or singers, or heroines,—these wives, or sweethearts, or maidens, exceptional in their vice or their virtues, in their chastity, their modest grace and womanly beauty, are names that we repeat. They dwell with us, occupy our imagination, and fill our memory. "Burning Sappho" has scarcely had justice done her either by the authoress or the artist. We like the version of Catullus—to whom Mrs. Cowden Clarke never alludes—ininitely better than that of the French princess, who imitated a poetic passion her language was utterly unable to express. Sappho's lyre is only a broken chord. We catch here and there a note of the Lesbian harp, borne on the wind, as the Roman poet returns home and hails the laughing waters of his welcome Sirmio; but the flush, and the madness, and the quick, impetuous beat of the song no language that comes not from the sweet South can render.

The fair-browed lady, who is playing a tetrachord as she stands on a cliff lit with the sunset that still glows upon the hills and seas that girdle "old Ionia," has an eager and a sky-commerce look,—but Greek she is not at all. The cheek and liquid eye might be Italian, but are infinitely below the fervour of the passionate Lesbian widow. Chaste Lucrece expresses cold resolve and determination, and leaves the spectator anxious for a result. Cleopatra is a sulky Mary Queen of Scots, and must have suffered many reverses ere she came to this complexion. Miss Martineau, if we remember rightly, much disturbed the popular conception of the "cockatrice of the Nile," by reporting a portrait at Cairo as exhibiting a snub nose and marvellously plain features. The American Cleopatra, if not our Cleopatra, at any rate, makes out a fair case for Antony.

St. Cecilia is very terrestrial, and Heloise exceedingly wearied. Lady Jane Grey is a grisette,—Valentine de Milan too distraught,—La Vallière a washed-out transparency,—Petrarch's Laura like the mother of eleven children,—Catherine of Russia and Maria Theresa robust viragos,—Margaret of Anjou and Isabella of Castille mutes. Dauntless Joan of Arc and bright-eyed, womanly Florence Nightingale are the two gems of the book. America has not been worthily represented. Is Pocahontas an exemplar of republican womanhood? We should like Mrs. Cowden Clarke to give us, if she print again, a book of obscure and unnoted women—women who never told their loves, women not in shady cloister hid, women cheerful and brave, the uncanonized saints, who brighten cold hearths and illumine sick rooms, and, by the sweet tones of their voice, draw angels down to listen!

NEW NOVELS.

Riverston. By Georgina M. Craik. 3 vols. (Smith, Elder & Co.)—"Riverston" is evidently the work of a fresh hand; there is a certain innocent good faith—an enjoyment in the task, which is seldom if ever to be found in any after work. "Riverston" is almost too carefully written. The author is throughout too self-conscious, and the circumspection, excellent virtue as it is, destroys the freedom of motion. The story moves slowly—it is impeded in its course by the minute and constant description of every look, gesture, and intonation, with which every word is said, so that at last the reader feels much as though he were in the presence of a detective policeman watching a prisoner to bring home some case of circumstantial evidence—it grows to be fatiguing and embar-

assing. The author shows great command of language—a force and clearness of expression not often met with, but there is far too great a profusion of adjectives; every emotion is rendered bodily by epithets simple or compound; for example:—"The sight of her (the child's) lavished caresses roused something in her of the wild animal jealousy which I have often thought slumbers at most times lightly enough in my bosom." Smiles are always "proud smiles," or "uneasy smiles," or "deprecating smiles." Used more sparingly, the epithets are generally so descriptive that they would have a good effect, but they cloy on the ear by their profusion—they materialize the unctious or passion to which they are applied, and it is a meretricious mode of producing the appearance of an effect, by coarsely colouring and copying the more outward manifestations of feelings, instead of trying to produce the effect by the legitimate process of working up the causes from within. We may seem extreme to mark this fault, but we insist upon it because Miss Craik is capable of working in the higher school, and also because it is a fault likely to grow apace with indulgence. "Riverston" is not one compacted tale, but three stories rolled into one. Honor Haig, who narrates the incidents, fills the post of governess in the family—she is of the Jane Eyre type. The three histories have little more connexion with each other than that they are translated under the same roof, by members of the family: they are all kept distinct from each other; and as they conclude, the characters pass from the scene leaving Honor Haig, who officiates much as the chorus of a Greek tragedy, until her own turn comes. The story consists of the histories of young ladies and their lovers, the course of whose love does not run smooth, chiefly because the parties do not exactly know their own minds. The first episode of Helen, who drives her lover to desperation, because whilst she loved little he loved much, is very well delineated. The catastrophe is told simply and forcibly, and its influence on the after-life of the girl seems like a true page of real life. The love affairs of Sydney and of Miss Haig interested us less; though the episode of Eleanor Rupert is extremely well done, and gives more indication of ability than any other part of the book. The conclusion is not sufficiently developed: it might easily be overlooked, and overlooked by a not altogether inattentive reader. The unity of the interest is broken up by the constant introduction of fresh characters. It is a radical fault in the book that the author has so designed her work, and we, on behalf of her readers, protest against having to part company from personages whom we have begun to like, just when they are dismissed for ever: our hearts stubbornly refuse to care for fresh people, however estimable; it requires too lavish an expenditure of our sensibilities. Even in a novel we cannot so readily transfer our sympathies. In conclusion, we offer a welcome to Miss Craik—she has the power to do something far better than "Riverston," and we shall look with interest for her next work.

The Gables: a Story of a Life. By Julia Melville. 3 vols. (Newby.)—"The Gables" is an interesting novel, the incidents are alive, and the reader is carried along by them more pleasantly than in many books of greater pretensions. There is a good deal of high-class crime belonging to the earlier ages of romance mixed up with modern drawing-room life; and we might take exception at the fancy drawing of the characters and at the somewhat painful unreality which is thrown over things that purport to be copied from the life, but as novels go at circulating libraries, those who take "The Gables" will not draw a blank: we can promise them that they shall read it with entertainment, and that "all the ingredients used," as confectioners say, "are perfectly harmless."

Northwode Priory. By the Author of "Everley." 2 vols. (Masters.)—These are two goodly volumes of didactic lore, very solid and excellently well intentioned. The incidents are somehow all contrived so as to take an appropriate shape and to hold the moral safely and gracefully. "Northwode Priory" is written on the model of the Miss Sewell and Miss Young school, but it lacks the freshness

and spirit which those ladies usually throw into their miniature painting. The style is weak and is destitute of all crispness. Above all, the work is far too long: it needs to have all the water boiled out of it, which process would reduce it to a third of its bulk. The character of Frances, the inefficient, dictatorial, domineering elder sister, is drawn with some spirit and life; but the others are not done with vigour or mastership. The Author of "Everley" seems to us to write too much and too easily.

The Ruling Passion. By Rainey Hawthorn. 2 vols. (Bentley.)—There is a good deal of talent shown in this novel, but it is not well amalgamated; the incidents are arbitrary and depend too evidently on the author's will; the characters are less human beings than fancy portraits. The result does not give the reader the impression of reality, and the effect is on the whole more fatiguing than pleasant. The story is clogged by long-winded reflections and observations too obvious to need extension. The situations are some of them very good, and the character of Reginald Ireby, the younger brother, is well conceived. He is a weak, violent, impracticable young man, deprived by an unjust will of the inheritance he had been educated to expect; exasperated by his wrongs, and without the strength necessary either to control circumstances or to submit to them, he brings nothing but evil on himself and those dependent on him; but he is too entirely provoking, and the reader soon ceases to feel either pity or sympathy for him. His two sisters are touchingly drawn, in their helplessness and confiding trust in this very broken reed, their brother, whom they love and forgive in a way that would be difficult to heroines in real life. "The Ruling Passion" would have been better called Monomania: it consists in Reginald's determination to obtain at once both his rights and his revenge. There is an elder half-brother, who has passed his life in struggling for his own rights and to revenge his mother's wrongs. This has been his "ruling passion." The father, by way of making two blacks into one white, dispossesses his younger son in favour of his long-neglected elder one, whose "ruling passion" is thus crowned with success. Neither of the brothers is entitled to much sympathy, and neither of them excites it. Their fraternal animosity is painful, but too mean to be respectable. The author has not the skill to regulate the power which he unquestionably possesses. He draws without models, and has not sufficient knowledge of human nature to dispense with them. "The Ruling Passion" is not a pleasant novel, but the author has more ability than he has brought to bear on the present work.

Early Struggles. By Mrs. A. Crawford. 3 vols. (Newby.)—This novel contains so many loose ends that it is quite impossible to get at the main thread of the interest, if, indeed, there be one. The history of many people is begun, carried on to a certain length, and dropped. The heroine, who is brought on the stage as a small baby, in her mother's arms, shows herself entirely unequal to the business; for, when come to years of discretion, whilst desperately in love with one man, she actually allows herself to be married surreptitiously, beside her uncle's death-bed, to another, whom she hates!—allows the Marriage Service to be read over her, *fancying it* the prayers for the Visitation of the Sick!—hears the man beside her uttering words after the priest, feels the ring put on her finger. "She would have screamed, but her lips refused to move. Her limbs seemed to fail; and, her ear resuming its finest sense, she distinctly heard the words Bonham uttered, following the priest,"—and faints away, instead of making any protest. The whole book is as weak, foolish, and ineffective as its heroine.

OUR LIBRARY TABLE.

Analytical Ethnology. By R. T. Massey, M.D. (Baillière.)—The author is for the Celt against the Saxon, and for Protestantism against Popery,—which makes very odd reading, for your anti-Saxon is usually a lover of the Old Church. Not but that the Englishman is a fine fellow, but he mistakes his race, he is a mixture of Celt, Norman, Dane, Saxon, &c. If he had really been a Saxon,

and nothing more, he would have been a poor creature. Robin Hood and Little John were the last of the Saxons. George the Fourth was one of those who left his spirit impressed on the age; Henry the Eighth, Elizabeth, and William the Third, were others. Johannes Scotus taught phrenology; Feargil, Latinized into Virgilius, asserted the antipodes, and, therefore, was the discoverer of the astronomy which goes under the name of Galileo and Copernicus. We might cite many other opinions, but we have done enough for our purpose, which is to show that we cannot seriously enter into a discussion with the amusing author. We like Protestantism, that is to say, the assertion of man's right to form his own opinions; and, therefore, we do not like to see its advocates furnishing strength to the enemy by hazarding wild opinions upon insufficient digestion of a mass of knowledge. A little more caution, and a little more inquiry, would well become a Protestant Celt, who wishes to show that his own religion makes his own race the first of human societies.

The Thousand and One Days: a Companion to the Arabian Nights; with Introduction. By Miss Pardoe. (Lay.)—The cluster of Eastern stories here presented has been gathered principally, Miss Pardoe says, from the notes of Oriental scholars on the Continent, "and little doubt can be entertained of the genuineness of their origin." We could have wished for more explicit information; but the tales themselves, although considerably Europeanized in manner, have the flush of the East upon them, and appear to have been wafted from Caïren and Constantinopolitan coffee-houses. We like the compiler's fashion of adhering in her adaptations for youthful readers to the simple, old orthography of Eastern names and titles: the light of other days throws a beam on the word "vizier," but to spell it "wuzzer" confounds all play-hour reminiscences; it is like imposing "Poseidon" upon those who are familiar with the trident-bearing god only as Neptune. Of these Arabian romances, as Miss Pardoe remarks, several are rather modified versions from the 'Thousand and One Nights' than new stories. Mujahid in the gem-garden is but another Aladdin, although his adventures are different; while the search for the "City upon Pillars" is a favourite episode in the fables of Asia. All readers of Oriental romantic literature will recognize an ancient intimate in the 'History of Prince Khalaf and the Princess of China,'—that traditionally beautiful and barbarous daughter of a king who immolates so many suitors, and at length succumbs to the wisest and prettiest prince in the world. But the book introduced by Miss Pardoe contains much that is probably unknown to the class of readers for whom it is intended, and we can cordially praise the adaptations as simple, agreeable, and animated. The tales themselves abound in the marvellous, within judicious limits, and are characterized by all those superb effects and dramatic changes of situation which fall perennially fresh on the minds of the young.

Statistical Book-keeping. By F. C. Krepp. (Longman & Co.)—Of this book we can only undertake to say that, by a clear method, it adds to the ordinary book-keeping a system of monthly balances. We feel sure that the old ledger, balanced once a year, is about as fit for these go-ahead days as the old stage-coach for our present rate of travelling. And we think it very possible that many traders may now be further on in their dealings than in their method of recording them. We, therefore, recommend Mr. Krepp's book to attention, as very likely to give useful suggestions. Our commercial friends will perhaps stare when we assert, that there is no art more completely ruled by theory than that of book-keeping; no art in which the power of practical suggestion more depends on the understanding of principles, and of the connexion of whole and part. An astronomer who knows but half his subject will put progress into that half ten times for once that an imperfect book-keeper will do as much for his own system.

Gore at Ouma: a Comedy, from the Russian of Griboiedoff. Translated by Nicholas Benardaky. (Simpkin, Marshall & Co.)—We are assured in the preface, that this work is "the *chef-d'œuvre* of the

Russian stage,"—that it is "a brilliant literary achievement,"—that its publication was "a bold step,"—the taking of which "excited great wrath," which "created a strong sensation, not only in the literary circles of Moscow, where it first made its appearance (in the year 1823), but in all classes of Russian society," and that "a great many of its verses remain as proverbs to the present day." * * "After a brilliant political career," concludes the notice, "Griboiedoff was appointed Ambassador to the Court of Teheran in the year 1829. A short time after his arrival, an insurrection broke out, and he was one of the first victims of a fanatic and infuriated mob." It would have been wiser had the preface confined itself to mere biographical notice, omitting the extravagant praise, and the pages of rhapsody and expatiation which follow. It is natural that a translator should be enamoured of his author; but to find 'Gore at Ouma' considered a *chef-d'œuvre* is a death-blow to curiosity as to the Russian stage. It will appear to British eyes no more dramatic than one of Mr. Landon's Imaginary Conversations,—and if its strokes did hit, Muscovite folly and autocracy must be far feebler and thinner of skin than we have been used to fancy. From every page this character could be proved; but the last scene of a party, which closes an act, and in which the man of "bitter irony" (so our translator describes Tchatsky) is the principal speaker, may be fairly accepted as one of the strong passages of the play, and thus it may be only just to Griboiedoff and his panegyrist to give it.—

Natalia Dmitrievna. Here he comes!
The Young Countess. Hush!
All. Hush! (They draw back from him.)
Madame Chloeff. It would be a pretty affair if in a fit of frenzy he were to challenge us all!
Famoussoff. Lord have mercy upon our miserable souls! (With great politeness.) My dear fellow! You are a little out of sorts, and you require a good sleep after the fatigues of your journey.... Let me feel your pulse! Why! You are in a raging fever!
Tchatsky. It is true! I cannot hold out any longer! I am stifled by the embraces of my Moscow friends. I am exhausted with visits. I am deafened by exclamations, and, worst of all, my head aches from all the nonsense to which I have been forced to listen! (Approaching Sophia.) I am writhing under a secret sorrow! I am bewildered in this crowd of faces! Ah! Moscow is no home for me!
Madame Chloeff. Oh! Moscow alone is to blame?
Famoussoff (making signs to Sophia). Go farther from him, Sophia. (Aside.) She does not see me!
Sophia. Tell me what has put you in this detestable humour?

Tchatsky. A very trifling incident, which happened in the next room. A little Frenchman, from Bordeaux, of no slight pretensions, had collected around him a crowd of listeners. He was relating to them that, on leaving France for Russia, a land of barbarians, he was all tears and sorrow! Suddenly, on his arrival, he found himself the idol of every circle. Not a single Russian tone, not a single Russian face did he find! He fancied himself in his own country, and with his old friends! "Russia," said he, "is but a province of France." Look at the little animal! He imagines himself a king! With all this he is satisfied—but we ought not to be so! He ceased, and then from all sides arose a thousand sighs and murmurs. "Ah! France! There is no other such country in the world!" Such was the decision of two young princesses, sisters, who merely repeated the lesson which they had learnt in their childhood. Where are we to hide our faces from princesses? In the mean time I was addressing an audible prayer to heaven that it would deliver us from the unclean spirit of blind and servile imitation! Oh! that it might drop a sacred spark into the heart of some Russian, who, by his precepts and example, might restrain us from the miserable passion for everything that is foreign! Let them call me, if they will, a vassal of antiquity! No matter! I find our North abandoned its place when it exchanged its language, its manners, and the sacred relics of its past, for a new order of things, and proscribed its ancient dress to assume the ridiculous costume of the West! The shaven chin is a miserable substitute for the white and venerable beard of our fathers! Our intellects have been curtailed like our coats and our hair! Ah! if we must imitate, why not at least imitate the Chinese in one point—their aversion to foreigners! Shall we ever be able to shake off the yoke of fashion so far as to prevent our honest peasantry from mistaking us for foreigners? St. Petersburg, Moscow, and all Russia wear the same aspect! A Frenchman has but to open his lips to lay a spell on all our young princesses! In our capitals, if any man—an enemy to imitation, flowery phrases, and foolish fashions—has a few original thoughts which he has the courage to proclaim, lo!.... (Turns round and sees that the young are waiting, and the old are playing at cards.)

The foregoing scene, we fear, may be thought a little meek, and rather slow.

The Chemistry of the World. By George W. Johnson. (Cottage Gardener Office.)—This work, of which we have only the first part before us, professes to be a popular explanation of the "Pheno-

mena daily occurring in and around our persons, houses, gardens and fields." The idea is an exceedingly good one; and if it had been carried out in a satisfactory manner, a very useful book would have been produced. A considerable store of facts connected with the "Soil," the "Light," and the "Heat of the World"—(these subjects forming three divisions of the book)—have been brought together, but the author frequently displays a strange want of exact knowledge. In his account of the discovery and the production of aluminium—in his relation of the circumstances connected with the manufacture of pottery by the Elers in Staffordshire—in his description of the present views regarding the influences of light on vegetation, and in other matters, we discover inaccuracies which would have been corrected by a very small amount of careful reading. It is much to be regretted that books of this character, professing to inform the public upon the great facts of science, but which, from their incorrectness, lead them away from the truth, should ever be published.

Tables for Calculating Interest from One to Eight per Cent., advancing by Eighthths. By R. Legg. (Longman & Co.)—The method of these useful tables is as follows:—A full 5l. per cent. table is given by days; and for all the other rates we are sent from the sum given to the sum which would give the proper interest if the rate were 5l. per cent. Thus, at 4½l. per cent., 376l. refers us to 310l. 4s. in the 5l. per cent. table; at 4¼l. per cent., 376l. yields just what 310l. 4s. yields at 5l. per cent. Accordingly, this book is not only complete in itself, but makes a useful addition to all 5l. per cent. tables whatever.

Tables for Calculating Interest on a New Method. By T. Pryde. (Edinburgh, Black.)—This new method consists in the use of logarithms,—and we believe it is as well carried into effect as can be under our present cognation. But, though we admit that even our present system is better worked with logarithms than without, by those who are fit to use such a tool, we have little hope of fairly introducing the commercial world to the *numeri rationum exponentes* until we have a decimal currency. Then, indeed, the plodding calculator may be drilled into a logarithmic system.

An Essay on the Beneficent Distribution of the Sense of Pain. By G. A. Rowell. (Oxford.)—This modest brochure of the Assistant Under-keeper of the Ashmolean Museum is full of interesting matter on the subject of pain. It is not an anatomical description of nerves or a discussion upon their functions; but a series of observations on man and the lower animals, by which the author arrives at the conclusion that the susceptibility to pain is one of the great conservative agents of the animal world. In his observations on the absence of pain among the lower classes of animals, as the insects, he has unwittingly confirmed the positions of those physiologists who, concluding that as the brain is the source of consciousness, and that pain can only be said to exist where there is consciousness, deny the existence of pain amongst animals which have no brain. Mr. Rowell has also some remarks on dying, in which he denies that death is painful, and quotes the well-known passage from Shakespeare:—

The sense of death is most in apprehension;
And the poor beetle, that we tread upon,
In corporal suffering finds a pang as great
As when a giant dies.

—He maintains rightly that Shakespeare alludes here to the little corporal pain of dying, and not to the capacity of the beetle for suffering. This essay contains a large amount of curious facts interesting to the naturalist and physiologist.

The Elements of Political Economy. By Henry Dunning Macleod. (Longman & Co.)—In our article on Mr. Macleod's 'Theory and Practice of Banking' [Athen. No. 1484] we noted the easy assurance with which he put down all the established authorities on monetary science. His confidence in the soundness of his own views has, we find, in no way abated. Mr. Ricardo, he tells us, was "a person of great natural powers of reasoning, but, unfortunately, he never received that indispensable training," &c. Equally unfortunate

are Mr. Senior, Mr. Stuart Mill, and Mr. Macculloch; and Sir Robert Peel, Lord Overstone, and Colonel Torrens, are by Mr. Macleod remorselessly cast into the limbo devoted to John Law and the issuers of assignats and "grocery orders,"—the framers of the Bank Act being, in his opinion, "ignorant of the routine business of banking," and destitute of "the remotest glimpse of the true principles of monetary science." Such intemperate and wholesale censure would not encourage us to hope for much from Mr. Macleod's studies on Political Economy, or from the "new system" which he imagines himself to have constructed. He proposes to treat the science as conversant only with the values of quantities. The idea, though a good one, is not new, and is lost in Mr. Macleod's hands. To account for all values by the law of supply and demand, and to regard cost of production as a cause of value only in so far as such cost influences the supply, was the proposal of Mr. Malthus; but it would require even an abler hand than that of Mr. Malthus to construct a system on that idea. Mr. Macleod's definition of money, that it is a "representative of debt," is the source of nearly all the errors that pervade his work. A workman who has received his wages in money has received an equivalent for his services, and not the "representative" of an equivalent. With strange inconsistency, he taxes the framers of the Bank Act with "Lawism," because, as he alleges, the original issue of Bank notes to the amount of 14,000,000*l.* was intended to represent the Government debt. The charge would be valid if it were true,—but the 14,000,000*l.*, as we explained in our recent article on the Report of the Committee on the Bank Acts [*ante*, p. 1569] were not issued because the debt was 14,000,000*l.*, but because that amount could be safely issued without gold. If the debt had been 800,000,000*l.* it cannot be imagined that an attempt would have been made to issue notes to that amount. Mr. Macleod, of course, attributes to the Bank Act all the disasters of 1847 and 1857,—the scene of which ought, according to his theory, to be exactly co-extensive with the operation of that Act. Commercial disasters and money panics were, however, heard of before 1844, and are not to this day confined to England. Mr. Macleod's chapter on the "Theory of Exchanges" is a good résumé of established principles; and those on the "History and various Theories of Currency" are creditably written,—but his work, on the whole, cannot safely be recommended to any one not fortified against error by a previous study of the science.

Several topics of the day are discussed in pamphlets of more than common elaboration. Very useful is *The Question of the Danubian Principalities*, apparently a translation, which lays bare the entire basis of the matters in dispute. Monetary affairs are treated of in *The Bank Charter, Letter by Edmund Phillips*, and *The Bank Charter Act of 1844, truthfully considered*, by Edward Norton, a new and enlarged edition.—Mr. Joseph Sampson Gamgee addresses Lord Brougham expressly on *Social Science and Actual Life*, in a narrative, which appears to be a statement of his individual wrongs,—*A Concise History of the Entire Abolition of Mechanical Restraint in the Treatment of the Insane, &c.*, by R. G. Hill, is a statement of a personal claim.—Mr. Edward Wilson's *Enquiry into the Principles of Representation* refers chiefly to the Australian colonies,—the Annual Report, by Dr. Letheby, *On the Sanitary Condition of the City of London*, abounds, as usual, in suggestive facts and figures.—Col. Arthur Cotton, of the Madras Engineers, transmits from his Residency a neat and practical essay *On the Study of Living Languages*. Of the following it will be sufficient to record the titles:—*The Introductory Address delivered at the London Hospital Medical College for 1857-58*, by John C. Wordsworth,—*The Character and Place of Wickliffe as a Reformer*, by Herbert Cowell,—*On the New Red Sandstone Formation of Pennsylvania*, by Dr. Isaac Lee,—and Part III. of *What is War?—Wine versus Indigence*.—*The Case of Thomas Pooley* professes to draw public attention to an example of arbitrary conduct on the part of certain Magistrates in Cornwall,—*A Short-Hand Writer's Report of the Trial of the Action Mackay and Others versus Ste-*

phenson is a publication of much importance to Life Assurance Societies and policy-holders.

CHILDREN'S BOOKS.

Messrs. Nelson have been at some pains to prepare a budget for the satisfaction of the juvenile members of all our houses. We cannot doubt that their offerings will be received with loud cheering and great applause. The first item which meets the eye is *The Giant Killer; or, the Battle which All must Fight*, by A. L. O. E., an allegorical tale, typical of the battles which a Christian Jack has to fight against the giants Sloth, Selfishness, Untruth, Hate, Pride, and other monsters, the story of which is well carried out in the history of the little people at the minister's house, who are the real giant-slayers.—*The Roby Family; or, Battling with the World: a Sequel to the Giant Killer*, is softly written, and the narrative of the trials and sorrows of the orphan family, bearing a burthen of divine and social truths, may interest children of larger growth.—*The Young Pilgrim*, a tale illustrative of 'The Pilgrim's Progress,' also by A. L. O. E., proves to be a "translation," to use the authoress's own term, of Bunyan's work, and is rendered intelligible to the smallest of pilgrims. If there be any tiny Willie or Marian who cannot yet grapple with the old Tinker, here is an acceptable stepping-stone to the necessary knowledge.—*The Rumbles of a Rat*, by A. L. O. E., is amusing, and displays an acquaintance with the natural history of that domestic plague; but A. L. O. E. is in error in speaking of the black rat, or *Mus rattus*, as if it were still common to this country.—*Cats and Dogs, Nature's Warriors and God's Workers*, by L. F. F. M. The intention of the work is good, and we should like to say the same of the performance, but we dare not deceive the smallest of our clients. In the first place, the lady writer is insensible to the claims of her personal pronouns and relatives, for she jumbles up the former without reference to person or precedence, and she compels two of the latter (who and whom) to become sponsors to dogs. We find her relatives coupled with "a stag who baffled her pursuers," "a dog who watched the dead body of her master," "the dumb animals whom God has so richly endowed," and "a dog who watched over all the fires."—*Truth is always Best*, by M. and E. Kirby. It would be quite as sensible to finish a young lady's education by a course of Newgate Annals, as to put into the hands of tender children the history of a wicked and cunning liar, such as is the heroine of this little work. We also object to such large talk about waiting-maids and little mistress. Jack and Jane will learn to play at master and mistress early enough, and insolently enough, too, without any hints from the books they read.—*The Better Way; or, What do I live for?* by Miss Randall Ballantyne, is a sort of autobiography; but Miss R. Ballantyne represents herself as a grandmother—which is against nursery canons—surrounded by the little people. We have read many a livelier tale than this, but perhaps the poor old lady with the silver locks is past literary labour.—*The Children's Bible Picture-Book*, illustrated with eighty engravings (Bell & Daldy), consists of about 300 pages of letter-press descriptive of Bible stories, with appropriate plates, some of which are very pretty. The binding and type are good, and altogether it will be an acceptable Christmas gift among the very good little people of the nursery—if there be any such left.—We have before us several children's papers published by the Messrs. Nelson. In *The Play Hour* for the present year we find three chapters from *Cats and Dogs*, five chapters from *The History of a Rat*, and one chapter from *Truth always Best*.—*The Children's Paper, full of Beautiful Pictures and Interesting Stories for Week-day and Sunday Reading*. The latter half of 1856 is before us, together with that of 1857. In the latter we find six chapters from *The Giant Killer*, and the commencement of *The Sequel*.—*The Little Pilgrim; or, Home and Sunday School Evangelist: consisting of Stories and Bible Lessons for Families and Schools*, is of the same kind, and is made up of extracts from the Bible and other books, together with a few hymns.—The Messrs. Dean have also helped

to swell the budget by *Zoological Oddities*, drawn from the originals; by *Movable Shadows*, and by *Funny Transformations by Aunt Oddemaddod*, all by Mr. Newman, of *Punch*. "Movable Shadows" consist of Honest John Bull, the Saucy Puss, an Old Woman, a Wild Duck, a Parrot, a Conceited Ass, our old friend Punch, and a Bear; and they are all very amusing and clever, being persons whose peculiarities of figure and dress produce the shadow of the above-mentioned animals and persons. In the "Zoological Oddities" we have a Mermaid in a hat and feather, a Frog (an inflated character, represented by a corpulent gent.), Just Hatched (a young exquisite), a Cormorant (Mr. Alderman Gobble), Miss Snipe, dressmaker, with her little bill; a Crab, a Turkey Cock (an irritable old gent.), an Eagle (a talon-ted lady), an Ostrich (a roving character), an old Drake (a Woolwich pensioner), a Fish (a thirsty soul), a Scorpion, a Miss Dolinda Crinoline, and an Elephant (evidently a fellow of substance). Our little people will laugh over these oddities. The "Funny Transformations" are rather silly, but will doubtless amuse very small fry.—Miss Corner's *Little Plays for Little People*, illustrated by Messrs. Weir and Barret (second series), containing 'Puss in Boots,' 'Children in the Wood' and 'Mother Goose.' These innocent little plays maintain the reputation which was acquired by the first series, which, if we remember rightly, consisted of 'Beauty and the Beast,' 'Whittington and his Cat,' and 'Cinderella and her Glass Slipper.'

LIST OF NEW BOOKS.

Annual Register for 1856, Vol. 92, 8vo. 12s. 6d.
Agnes and the Little Key, by A. L. O. E., 3s. 6d. cl.
Beresford's Clara Leicester, 3 vols. post 8vo. 3s. 6d. cl.
Book for the Cottage, new edit. 18mo. 1s. 6d. cl.
Burn's Mechanics and Mechanism, 3rd edit. 8vo. 2s. cl.
Burke's Peasage and Haronage of the British Empire, 2nd ed. 3s. cl.
Cartwright's Royal Sisters, 2 vols. post 8vo. 12s. cl.
Clukey's Philosophy of Chess, post 8vo. 2s. cl.
Cumming's Benedictions, or the Blessed Life, new edit. 3s. 6d. cl.
Donne's Essays on the Drama, or 8vo. 6s. cl.
English Hearts and English Hands, or 8vo. 5s. cl.
English Cyclopædia, Biography, Vol. 6, 4to. 10s. cl.
Ferry's Cavaliers and Free Lances of New Spain, post 8vo. 3s. 6d.
Four Sisters, Patience, Humility, Hope, and Love, 3s. 6d. cl.
Further Adventures of the Little Traveller, square, 3s. 6d. cl.
Gatty's Legendary Tales, 6s. 8vo. 5s. cl.
Gatty's Fables from Nature, 2nd Series, 18mo. 2s. cl.
Gems from Spurgeon, 18mo. 1s. 6d. cl.
Glen's Burial Board Acts of England & Wales, with Notes, 6s. cl.
Glorious City, 8vo. 3s. 6d. cl.
Gore's Snow Storm, illustrated by Cruikshank, 6s. 8vo. 3s. cl. gilt.
Gore's Inundation, illustrated by Cruikshank, 6s. 8vo. 3s. cl. gilt.
Greatest Plague of Life, edited by the Brothers Mayhew, 2s. 6d. cl.
Gore's Patches and other Masters, Pt. 3, Religions of China, 7s. 6d.
Hollie's Daily Worship, Vol. 1, royal 8vo. 12s. 6d. cl.
Household Words, Vol. 16, 8vo. 8s. 6d. cl.
Household Prayers for Morning and Evening Use, 8vo. 3s. 6d. cl.
James's Last of the Fairies, illust. by Gilbert, 6s. 8vo. 3s. cl. gilt.
James's Memoirs of Great Commanders, new edit. post 8vo. 5s. cl.
Jerold's Lesson of Life, 8s. 18mo. 1s. 6d. swd.
Jerold's Punch's Letters to his Nephew, 18mo. 1s. 6d. swd.
Jerold's Sketches of the English, 18mo. 1s. 6d. swd.
Jerold's Story of a Feather, 18mo. 2s. 6d. swd.
Jerold's (H. M.) Memoirs, briefly considered, post 8vo. 7s. 6d. cl.
Knight's Popular History of England, Vol. 3, royal 8vo. 3s. cl.
Knight's Treasury, Vol. 1, imp. 8vo. 3s. cl.
Lever's The O'Donoghue, new edit. cr. 8vo. 4s. cl.
Long's Lilies of the Valley, 18mo. 2s. 6d. cl.
Lindley's British India, 3 vols. 8vo. 3s. cl.
Miller's History of England, Vol. 2, post 8vo. 6s. cl.
Melville's Interpreter, cr. 8vo. 10s. 6d. cl.
Miller's Alcohol, its Place and Power, 18mo. 1s. swd.
Miller's Sports and Pastimes of Merry England, 18mo. 3s. 6d. cl.
Monro's Tables for Calculating Measurement, Freight, &c. 10s. cl.
Myrtle's Ocean Child, 2nd edit. cr. 8vo. 3s. 6d. cl.
Our Christian Classics, Vol. 2, cr. 8vo. 4s. cl.
Paradise Kept; or, Sorrow turned into Joy, 6s. 8vo. 4s. cl.
Planche's Twenty-four Fairy Tales, illust. post 8vo. 7s. 6d. cl.
Procter's History of Book of Common Prayer, 3rd edit. 10s. 6d. cl.
Reid's Plant-Hunters, 6s. 8vo. 7s. cl.
Riego's Crochet Book, 16th series, square, 1s. swd.
Ruskin's Political Economy of Art, 6s. 8vo. 2s. 6d. cl.
Ruth and her Friends, 6s. 8vo. 3s. cl.
Spencer's Essays: Scientific, Political, and Speculative, 8vo. 12s.
Symington's Beautiful in Nature, Art, and Life, 3 vols. 21s. cl.
Tuttol's Manual of Shells of British Islands, new edit. 15s. cl.
Tuttol's Peace of God, or the Words of Jesus, 18mo. 2s. 6d. cl.
Two Vocations, 2nd edit. cr. 8vo. 5s. cl.
Wagner's (Rev. G. I.) Memoir, by Simpkinson, cr. 8vo. 9s. cl.
Wild Flowers of the Alphabet, 4to. 7s. 6d. cl.
Winslow's Evening Thoughts, January to June, imp. 32mo. 2s. 6d.

American Importations.

'37 and '37—An Account of Panics, &c. in the U.S., 1690-'37, 1s. 6d.
Archæologia Americana, Vol. 3, 8vo. 12s. cl.
Boston Board of Trade, First and Second Reports, 8s. 6d. each.
Caughey's Triumph of Truth, post 8vo. 7s. cl.
Dana's Fourth Supplement to Mineralogy, 8vo. 15s. 6d.
Dana's Science and the Bible, No. 3, 8vo. 15s. 6d.
Documents on the Colonial History of the State of New York, 4th Edition against Ticonderoga and Crown Point, 4to. 15s. swd.
Felton's Decimal System, 18mo. 7s. cl.
Follen's Twilight Stories, 2nd series, 6 vols. square 18mo. 3s.
Goldsmith's Diseases of the Genito-Urinary Organs, 8vo. 6s. cl.
Gould's Guardian Angels, 18mo. 6s. cl.
Haven's Mental Philosophy, post 8vo. 10s. cl.
Henry Morris, a Tale, 18mo. 3s. cl.
Johnson's Sabbath School Manual, 32mo. 2s. cl.
Nothing to Do, an Accompaniment to 'Nothing to Wear,' 3s. 6d.
Pacific Railroad Explorations, Vols. 3 and 4, 4to. 81s. cl.
Scientific American, Vol. 12, folio, 18s. half-bound edit. 15s. cl.
Smith's English Grammar on the Productive System, 12mo. 1s. 6d.
Smyth's Well in the Valley, 18mo. 4s. 6d. cl.
Train's Young America in Wall Street, 7s. 6d. cl.

GIRLS' home, which Assoc ledge," and for how to poses, Assoc men, a when v good—all men purpose words. has at working a plan It is pr Mrs. A "Girls' men," y been pu tion c isolated will no secl in ally, s such e broaden raged i tified b classes, all, by founda step for we hav pathy o their a women own se knowle aptitud law. posal of tion and of a ho expenses for carried and success These, have d for the will oc at the entirel want, thing take p public expect account to say work t instinc gine make physic may be in the ciation ing wo lasting laying ments primal most excell courage faith, and gu long u believe

GIRLS' SCHOOLS AND THE TRAINING OF WORKING WOMEN.

I have read, at a distance from my English home, a paragraph in the *Athenæum* (Nov. 14), which contains the announcement of a "Ladies' Association for the diffusion of sanitary knowledge," "the promotion of physical education," and for "instructing the lower classes of women how to live," &c. One might, perhaps, take exception to a "Ladies' Association" for such purposes, as one might object to a "Gentlemen's Association" for the sanitary training of working men, and for teaching them "how to live"; for when we unite together for purposes of mutual good—to teach each other "how to live"—we are all men and women, are we not? But where the purpose is so admirable, it were idle to stumble at words. Whatever its denomination, no one who has at heart the amelioration and elevation of the working classes can read the announcement of such a plan without a thrill of gratitude and pleasure. It is probably one of the first practical results from Mrs. Austin's excellent and sensible letters on "Girls' Schools and the Training of Working Women," which appeared in your journal, and have since been published in a separate form. By such an institution or association as is here contemplated, the isolated endeavours of benevolent and active women will not be superseded. Nothing ought to supersede individual effort, as nothing works so effectually, so lastingly, as individual influence. But such efforts and influences will be placed on a broader basis—will be strengthened and encouraged by union; will be—if I may say so—sanctified by the kindly relations of women of different classes, ages, minds, working together; and, above all, by the presence and the care of children. The foundation of such institutions or associations is a step forward in the right direction, particularly if we have—as no doubt we shall have—the sympathy of generous, intelligent men, perhaps also their aid, in instructing—for on many subjects women are better instructed by men than by their own sex, listen with more docility, and receive the knowledge imparted with more reverence and more aptitude—which also is accordant with the natural law. One such institution, by placing at the disposal of industrious women the means of instruction and discipline, the use of books, and the use of a house—which in England is always the first expense and the first difficulty—will set an example for others. If the first experiment be judiciously carried out, they will be tried in different localities, and will probably go through the same phases of success and failure as the Mechanics' Institutes. These, we know, notwithstanding many mistakes, have done much good; so in similar associations for the better practical training of women errors will occur, and they may fail here and there; but, at the worst, they cannot wholly err—they cannot entirely fail, because they have become a social want, which must be supplied; and gaining something by every new experience, they will at last take possession of the public attention and the public sympathy, till our working women, who are expected to be good cooks, good economists, good accountants, good nurses, will no longer have cause to say that they know not where to go to learn the work that is required from them. "Trust to their instincts!" I once heard it argued, "and they will gain experience." Do we trust to instincts to make men good farmers, good carpenters, good physicians, or even good soldiers—though fighting may be as much an instinct in the man as nursing in the woman? Who knows whether such associations for the instruction and elevation of working women may not do even more real and more lasting good than the Mechanics' Institutes, by laying their foundations deeper down in the elements of natural life, and taking into account those primal affections and duties on which all society must rest? True, we have seen many of these excellent projects end in discomfiture and discouragement; but failure I will not admit—none have wholly failed. All have left some track of faith, of light, behind them, for the consolation and guidance of others. Those who have looked long upon life, see and know this, and hope on, believe on, work on, in spite of all mischance, all

mistake, all mistrust. So I, for one, rejoice in your announcement of this new Institution, and wish it all success. Nothing is said of the details by which it is to be carried out, nor of the persons through whom any further communication may be sought by those who are cordially interested in the objects proposed. I have seen that in forming such plans, one source of confusion and mistake arises from not rightly estimating and not rightly using the faculties of those through whom we must work as well as of those for whom we must work. It is apparent that in all the women who are benevolently busied in these matters there exist two especial tendencies of character, never blended in equal proportions,—the *sympathetic* and the *administrative*. We may see women with the warmest, truest, gentlest, largest sympathies, trusting to these only (and trusted for these only), fail lamentably when faculties of a different order were required; for instance, quick perceptions, habits of calculation and arrangement, firmness of purpose, a sort of innate power of placing things and people in their right places. In the wisest and most efficient workers out of good both the sympathetic and the administrative faculties must exist,—but one or the other will always predominate, and according to the degree in which they predominate must our workers be selected. A little experience would suffice to prove to themselves and others what they are most fit for. As I have lately seen in a great hospital one set of "Sisters" distributing linen, mixing and sending round medicines, keeping the accounts, and another set of "Sisters" standing by the bed, smoothing the pillow, supporting the sinking head, lifting the feeble hands,—and was this distribution of work a matter of mere chance or routine? It was impossible to suppose so, looking in the women's faces. So in a large school, or any other educational institution, the sort of *personality* which would excel in organizing and commanding a large number would not probably be that which would most sympathize with the individual nature, exercise the strongest moral influence, or make the best and most patient teacher. God makes these differences, and we have to recognize and use them. "The right woman in the right place" is as necessary to good government as "the right man in the right place." Such institutions as are contemplated in the announcement I have referred to, will prepare, not the lower classes only, but all classes for mutual duties. There are numbers of women, of the middle classes especially, not destined probably to be wives and mothers, but who will find that the qualifications best fitted to govern and harmonize the house, will enable them to carry the home sympathies into a larger sphere of action, into every sphere of action which can be contemplated in the destiny of working women, married or unmarried, which can bring them into relations with the other sex.

Men, I think, seem in general to consider women under two aspects—those who are fit to be their wives, and those who are fit to be their mistresses; and women by some infatuation seem to have virtually accepted this classification, and adapted themselves to it. I cannot but think that this is a mistake, and a demoralizing mistake in regard to both sexes. At the same time we see gaining ground a mistake quite as fatal and as demoralizing. Certainly we women will prevail in nothing by waving a flag of defiance in the face of man,—not only all antagonism, but all emulation in the relations of the two sexes seems to me simply ridiculous. All this assumption of mutual independence,—all these pretensions to being *half-men* (to use the latest American slang), only provoke a sneering and a swearing, very discordant and very exasperating. We are not half-men, but we are one-half of the human race, and only ask to be so considered. In doing the best we can to prepare ourselves for our social and domestic duties, we ask the help and counsel of those whose happiness, as we are told, depends so much upon us. The complaint quoted by Mrs. Austin as having fallen from the lips of a distinguished official, "that there is no such thing now as a poor man's wife," might perhaps be met by the question, "Where is the poor woman's husband?" to which our police reports

might make a fearful answer. But where would be the use of this sort of one-sided recrimination? Slovenliness, insubordination, undisciplined temper, and folly, on the one side, produce desperation, neglect, tyranny, and brutality on the other. Only let us bear in mind that "the sacred edifice of home," as Mrs. Austin well calls it, rests not upon one pillar but on two; and even when men have learnt how best to earn the food of the family, and women how best to cook it, there will still remain some other things to be considered. Meantime, our girls' schools and systems of female education are terribly inefficient in producing good cooks, good nurses, and good wives. If we succeed in reforming this state of things, in founding institutions which shall better prepare our women for their home duties, it may, perhaps (in time), suggest to the social conscience some modification in the school habits of our boys, so that they also may be trained to the moral exigencies of domestic life—to more self-control and more conscientiousness in their dealings with women. A. J.

FOREIGN CORRESPONDENCE.

Castagneto, November.

BEAUTIFUL as the trip is round the Bay on one side to Castellamare and Sorrento, and thence over to Capri,—and, on the other side, to Pozzuoli and Baia, and so over to Ischia and Procida,—variety is always charming, and we are all rejoicing in the railway which has this year been opened to La Cava. As you leave the Castellamare line at Torre dell' Anunziata, the character of the country begins to change. A long defile between two lofty ranges of mountains presents itself, and the more you advance, the narrower the defile becomes. The vegetation, too, changes; cotton and castor-oil plants take the place of cabbages and potatoes, and you feel not only that you are running away from a large vegetable-consuming capital, but that you are entering on a country with an entirely new phase. I shall hurry by Pompeii, where I have often paused, but must look in a moment at Scafati, now enriched and elevated, in every sense of the term, by the introduction of manufactures. Nineteen years ago, said a native of the neighbourhood, some Swiss settled here in the midst of a savage, demoralized people. They brought with them 1,500 ducats as capital on which to speculate, and established factories for cotton goods. The result has been that they not long since divided their gains, and found that each had for his share 60,000 ducats. The population, too, have become orderly, civilized, and well-to-do. It is, however, foreign enterprise which has done this. At Nocera there is a considerable rise in the line, and the gradients as far as La Cava are very severe. One hour and three quarters have brought us down from Naples, and here in this picturesque spot I mean to stop a little and talk of its scenery, its produce, and its curiosities. A short addition to the actual line of railway will connect it with Salerno, and by peeping round the corner of a neighbouring mountain, you may see the second city in the kingdom,—then a drive of an hour and a half will take you over to Amalfi, so that La Cava, as a summer residence, is one of the most central and come-at-able places in the neighbourhood of Naples. I do not mean the town itself so much as the pretty little hamlets which are scattered about the mountains on either side of the valley,—for the town, however picturesque and original, with its arched streets, has all the bustle, and dirt, and odours of most Italian towns. To one of the aforesaid little hamlets we will adjourn, then, after having disposed of two or three matters of information. La Cava is a town with a population of about 20,000 souls. So the Cavese would say, "If you please not to sneeze at us." Besides the trade created by the usual consumption of the people, tobacco is cultivated to a considerable extent in the vicinity, and Government has erected a fabric close on the outskirts. It is, therefore, a monopoly, as you will infer, and no one has a right to plant it except by Government permission; even the number of plants must be specified, so that the probable produce is generally known to the directors

of the works. I understand that the average number of plants cultivated annually amounts to 50,000, and that the average produce is from 10,000 to 11,000 cantari,—a cantaro being equal to 100 rotoli, and a rotolo to 33 oz. Neapolitan, or 27 oz. English. Tobacco is sown in April, and taken up in August, and requires about a month for drying. It is then divided into three quantities, which are valued respectively at 25, 20, or 15 ducats the cantaro, though the Government purchasers do not give more than from 16 to 17 ducats the cantaro for all qualities mixed. Contrary to what I supposed had been the custom, tobacco is planted every year in the same ground, and fattens it, say the Cavese, but whether this effect is produced by the tobacco, or by a large use of manure, may admit of a reasonable doubt. A peculiar kind of snuff, called the Erba Santa, or "holy weed," is also made here, and any summer bird who is fond of the indulgence of snuffing could do no better than take a lodging in the neighbourhood of this fabric. The whole of this country, too, from Pompeii down to La Cava, produces a certain quantity of cotton, much less and of an inferior quality to that which might be grown, it is true, for the soil is in many respects admirably suited for the purpose, but the usual curse of the country, want of enterprise, is upon this neighbourhood, and half of its great capabilities are neglected. The growth of cotton implies almost that it is worked here, but it is principally by horse and hand labour, for there are no cotton factories as yet in La Cava. "We call machinery," says Don Stefano,—a great man, and a great authority in these parts,—"we call machinery Il Diavolone," the Great Devil. So that it may be inferred what is the opinion of all the small dogs who bark in his train. With all this, about 100 cantari of cotton a day are consumed, though not more than 1,000 cantari are grown in the course of the year. What is wanted in excess, therefore, is imported from America and from Turkey. One may almost pardon my friend Don Stefano's denunciations of "Diavolone," when merely by coming within earshot of La Cava has diminished the price of a woman's labour by one-half—it being now not more than from twopence to threepence a day. Perhaps in the whole province of Salerno, counting small and great, there are not fewer than a hundred fabrics of cotton and of wool, and these are ever increasing their foreign enterprise. The wool of Puglia is principally used, and the article which is turned out from the factory, though far inferior to French or English cloth, is improving annually. "But with regard to cotton goods manufactured at Salerno," said a man engaged in the trade, "we prefer them to the English—they are stronger, and we pay dearer for them." Whether this assertion can be borne out by facts I cannot say, but such was the information which I received on the spot, and such the source from which I derived it. Leaving the little town, however—for I hate all towns, both small and great—let us go through its narrow streets, under its shady arcades, across which are dangling macaroni and sausages, and arriving at the bridge, let us turn up a steep road on the right. It is flanked by lofty hedges, which might do credit to old England; and were we to pursue it far enough, would lead us up to that lofty range of Apennines which are bathed in purple and gold, and which separate us from the Bay of Naples. But I stop at the little village of Castagneto, and put up at an old-fashioned house, where an old-fashioned, middle-aged dame undertakes to provide board and lodging for travellers for a piastre, or four shillings, a day. Good, kind old Donna Rosina, or Martha she might have been called, so cumbered she was with serving! Her house is the very pink of cleanliness, and she the very pink of anxious, good-hearted old landladies. After the pretension, and extortion, and cunning of Naples, it is quite delightful to meet with the simplicity of this kind dame. True, she cannot offer many luxuries, but her fare is by no means bad, and it is preceded by so many anxious inquiries as to what you like, and how you like it, that he must be a churl who would not make a feast upon much simpler fare. As you become more at home in the house, she hovers about you at breakfast, rubs her hands in delighted

anticipation of your surprise as she whispers wonderful promises of luxuries in reserve for dinner, and then runs away as happy as a queen, and much happier than many queens, at the thought of the communication which she has made. Her visitors' book, almost the only book she has—for her library is not extensive—contains all kinds of *buone parole* in favour of her house, and I send you a sonnet extracted from it as a specimen of the production of some travellers in the south of Italy:—

Sonnet.

Thou! who hast travelled through Italia's lands,
And paid the penalty that all must pay,
Of dust and gnats, and sultry summer's heat,
Of courier who obeys, and yet commands:
Thou! who hast stood where many a traveller stands,
Oft gazed on vacancy, and called it fair:
Thou! who hast paid for all things everywhere—
The waiters, guides, custode, and the way,
The donkeys that have carried on their backs
Those thou hast loved, and others thou shouldst hate,
All people and all things in every state,
Come here and be contented with thy lot.
Good food, good water, and a cleanly cot,
These are the joys of life—all else is godless rot!

BY AN EXTREMELY NICE YOUNG MAN.

Casa Monica, March 26.

—Our landlady is, I must observe, too, very religious, and somewhat superstitious of course, and I must give the following anecdote as a striking illustration of the religio-superstitious character in this part of Italy. In wandering during the night about her "bogey" old house, I observed a light issue from a cupboard in a room which was devoted to apples and pears, carved boxes a century or two old, dilapidated crosses, and broken vases for holy water. After my curiosity had been excited by observing the same phenomenon during several nights, I called Donna Rosina one morning, and took her with me to the room, and told her my story. "Well, sir, you might have opened it yourself; but let us see: there is nothing here but this old tin funnel, and a silver-looking bottle."—"Ah! now it is solved," I replied. The light of my candle was reflected from these objects, and hence the appearance which struck me through the crevices. Shortly after, I was called out by Donna Rosina again, who, with a very long face, demanded—"Did you see the whole of the cupboard illuminated?"—"So it appeared to be," I replied; "but why?"—"Because, sir, in that bottle that you see is contained holy water which dropped from the bones of S. Nicola of Bari. In that city are preserved the bones of the saint, and just under them is a small well into which water drops from the bones. What is remarkable is, that though thousands visit the well in the course of the year, and take away water, it never contains less. Now, the *beata memoria* of my father, who died twenty-three years ago, went on a pilgrimage to Bari about thirty years since, and brought back this bottle with the holy water; and I am thinking, sir, that this light that you saw was a *grazia* granted by the saint to my house for my devotion to him." Could I be such a brute as to destroy her pleasant delusion—it was the light of her life, which nothing could extinguish; and whilst it cheered the darkness of this world, gave her simple mind wonderful revelations of another. No, dear old Donna Rosina, keep the holy water, and the miraculous bottle, and nurse the belief that ministers of grace defend you. Would that I had such a delusion myself! Castagneto is situate in the midst of a mountainous and richly-wooded country. The elm, and the ilex, and the chestnut, and the Lombardy poplar, and a host of other and smaller trees, vie with one another in abundance; and if a strong contrast is desired to the blue seas of Naples, it is found here in the midst of this lovely scenery, where now, in the month of November, the eye is relieved by the yellow tints of autumn. Rambles long and short, full of picturesque beauty, you may find all around Castagneto. I have climbed, with my guide, up to the Fenestrella and its lofty neighbours, where not even a goat will find any nourishment, until my guide has exclaimed, "Non posso piu;" and again in the gloaming I have wandered through the Devonshire-like lanes until I came to a church where they were singing the evening devotions to the Madonna. There are, however, two or three crack walks which must on no account be neglected.

One is to a kind of platform near a church, which is called Pietra Santa, whence you look down on the entire valley of La Cava, with its villages and townships shrouded in timber, and over on the mountains opposite, on which are perched inaccessible villages and medieval towers—and towers for catching pigeons, which fly over this country in the autumn by the thousand. It is a singular sport. Nets are spread all round, and people on the tops of these towers use every method of frightening the birds, which dip below to avoid their enemy, and are taken in the nets. As a man in the north of England, therefore, rents a bit of land for grouse-shooting, a Cavese rents a tower. Pic-nic parties are found on a promising morning, and as the flocks come over a most unearthly shout is set up, and those which escape the net are exposed to the chances of the gun. Notwithstanding, however, an occasional shot, sporting language here has undergone great changes, and instead of asking your friend how many birds he has bagged, you must ask him how many he has towered or netted. The pleasantest walk in the neighbourhood of Castagneto, however, is in the direction of La Trinità. You may keep down by a lower road, through which a mountain torrent foams in winter, and admire, as most artists do, a remarkable grotto in the rock,—or you may keep the upper road, which leads to a monastery, where sixteen gentlemen, with I know not how many degrees of nobility, sleep away existence under the gentle rule of St. Benedict.

OUR WEEKLY GOSSIP.

THE Harpers, of New York, give Mr. Thackeray two thousand dollars for early proof-sheets of his story, 'The Virginians.' They gave a similar sum to Mr. Dickens for sheets of 'Little Dorrit.' One of the New York papers, they complain, has begun to reprint the chapters of 'The Virginians' in its columns; an act against which the Harpers protest in the interests of English authors. It is impossible, they say, for any house to pay two thousand dollars for a work that will be reprinted.

Sir Henry Ellis has resigned the office of Director of the Society of Antiquaries, and Editor of the Society's papers.

The public entertainments commanded by the Queen in honour of the marriage of the Princess Royal with the heir to the Prussian Crown, are to be four in number,—the place, Her Majesty's Theatre. The entertainments will begin with a tragedy, 'Macbeth' (a singular fabrication of a royal union), in which Miss Helen Faucit and Mr. Phelps will appear, and at which Her Majesty will be present in State. On the second night, a comedy will be given—possibly Goldsmith's 'She Stoops to Conquer' (in every way a felicitous selection). The third entertainment will be 'The Rose of Castille,' represented by Miss L. Pyne, Mr. Harrison, and Mr. Weiss. On the fourth night, an Italian opera will be given by Mr. Lumley's company. The whole series will be managed by Mr. Mitchell.

Still they come, in all the dainty devices of gold and silver, scarlet and blue—these Christmas visitors! Mr. Mayhew's 'Upper Rhine' we treat elsewhere, being a new book as well as a Christmas gift. But we must notice here a fresh version of 'The Proverbs of Solomon,' and 'Songs of the Holy Land,' two splendid offerings from the presses of the Messrs. Nisbet & Co.,—and 'The Loves of the Poets,' a book of female beauty, published by Messrs. Kent & Co. The 'Proverbs' are illustrated by Mr. Gilbert, with his usual breadth and variety of style—in which there lies, nevertheless, a strong mannerism and personality. But the subject lacks the unity of the Holy Land, the very name of which is a sacred poem. The artists employed in the illustration of the latter count into a legion; but we may mention, among the most meritorious, Messrs. Seddon, Woolf, Corbould, Harvey and Foster. The Songs are taken from the wide range of English poetry. Altogether, this is a most attractive Christmas gift. 'The Loves of the Poets' (the title of which is boldly borrowed from one of Mrs. Jameson's most charming works) is a misnomer and a mistake. The portraits, which seem to have figured in every

conceivable the beginning of the world, under the names of Laura and indeed A Mr writes to Sir Henry Mr. Smith ago at the means let him, how to post-as his ignominy and the the Assy schoolboy the Laws We re Pfiffer's had won't had been having I "Ein L celebrate Ritter, i at Berlin —read a that her four wee dely all to such them. of the that of e has been Among Admiral grapher A rea use of g "I e Museum plish a nearly f for a pl accom their nu ing, as scarcely dent, ad use of f desire a was no dark for inside t gentlen reader's four, e very in ous exed, l, luxury self th which, reads a hours t the B cious, Under for ar temper but th dread supers to this else, s should things value of En fusing count M. room

conceivable Keepsake and Book of Beauty from the beginning of these dainty nothings, are not loves of the poets at all, but merely idle imaginations of the poets. Let no one send for them under the impression that they comprise real Laurs and Stellas, Saccharissas and Geraldines—or indeed anything that is real and good.

A Mr. D. Smith, of Melbourne, Victoria, writes to us, claiming a discovery prior to that of Sir Henry Rawlinson of the Assyrian alphabet. Mr. Smith claims to have made his discovery years ago at the British Museum by accident. By all means let him publish his proof. We will remind him, however, that the world is very sceptical as to post-asserted discoveries. Mr. Smith confesses his ignorance of ancient and Oriental languages, and the chances against such a man deciphering the Assyrian cylinders are as strong as against a schoolboy ignorant of the Rule of Three discovering the Laws of Kepler or conceiving the Calculus.

We reported but very recently of Madame Ida Pfeiffer's comfortable stay at Madagascar, how she had won the favour of the Court, and how her table had been supplied with eggs, fowl, and fruit, for having played on the piano, and having sung "Ein Leid dabei." The latest news from the celebrated traveller are less cheerful; Professor Ritter, in a meeting at the Geographical Society at Berlin, which took place on the 5th of December, read a letter from Madame Pfeiffer, which states that her good graces with the Court lasted but four weeks, and that afterwards the Queen suddenly altered her behaviour towards the Europeans to such a degree that she gave orders to behead them. It was owing only to the intermediation of the Prince, that this order was changed for that of expulsion, which we hope Madame Pfeiffer has been prompt to obey.

Among the deaths of the week is that of Rear-Admiral Sir Francis Beaufort, formerly Hydrographer to the Admiralty, in his 84th year.

A reader at the British Museum pleads for the use of gas in the new Reading-hall:—

"London, Dec. 12.

"I entered the reading-room at the British Museum to-day at three o'clock, hoping to accomplish a good hour's labour. I found the room nearly full, and had to look about some little time for a place to sit down. So largely has the superior accommodation now offered to readers increased their number, that in all that large room, containing, as it does, places for about 300, there was scarcely a seat to be had. Ere long, it is quite evident, additional rooms will have to be given up to the use of the readers; but this is not the question I desire at present to touch upon. This afternoon was not a bright one, but by no means unusually dark for a winter's day, yet the light was so bad inside the reading-room, that I must say the 300 gentlemen who to-day availed themselves of the reader's privilege between the hours of three and four, each and all of them, myself included, were very imprudent, and were playing a most dangerous experiment with their eyesight,—except, indeed, two or three whom I perceived enjoying the luxury of sleep. I say this advisedly, having myself the blessing of remarkably good eyesight, which, however, was severely tried by the effort to read a very distinct MS.; and were it not that the hours and minutes that I can at present devote to the British Museum are as few as they are precious, nothing could have induced me to remain. Under these circumstances, I beg to put in a plea for artificial light. The *Athenæum* has long and temperately pleaded for an evening reading-room; but the great obstacle appears to have been the dread of fire. Surely, sir, it is impossible to be superstitious in the excess of caution. It is in vain to think of absolute security for MSS. or anything else, a remarkable degree of caution is all that should be asked for. Doubtless there are valuable things in the British Museum. There are also valuable things, of another description, in the Bank of England. Fancy the directors of the Bank refusing to transact business in a London fog on account of the danger of artificial light.

"I am, &c., G."

M. Frémy has been chosen Academician in the room of M. Thénard, deceased.

The Library of the late Dean Conybeare was sold by auction at the rooms of Messrs. Sotheby & Wilkinson, last week, and realized high prices. The great attraction was a Manuscript of Wycliffe's Translation of the New Testament into English, with a Version of the Lessons and Epistles taken from the Old Testament, forming two small duodecimo volumes, written about 1380, which sold for 145*l.*, a large sum certainly, but easily accounted for by the fact of Wycliffe's books having been strictly prohibited by the Constitutions of Archbishop Arundel, issued at the Oxford Convocation in 1408. Among other articles of interest we notice the following:—Agassiz, *Recherches sur les Poissons Fossiles*, 19*l.*—Geological Society's Transactions, 8*l.* 5*s.*—Gospels in Anglo-Saxon and English, edited by J. Foxe, 5*l.* 10*s.*—Horn B. Marie Virginis, beautiful woodcuts by Weriut, but unfortunately imperfect, with a curious MS. Note by the artist Jay, stating that the contemplation of the exquisite engravings had been the consolation of his life, 15*l.*—Herolt, *Sermones, cum Promptuariis*, a book from which Chaucer took his 'Friar's Tale,' and Occleve, 'the chaste Roman Empress,' but imperfect, 7*s.* 6*d.*—Lasinio, *Pittura à Fresco del Campo Santo di Pisa*, 7*l.* 5*s.*—Mystères des Actes des Apostres, printed at Paris in 1540, 7*l.* 10*s.*—Rappresentazioni Sacri, a Collection of Seventeen Italian Mysteries in Verse, including one of St. George and the Dragon, printed at Siena in 1608, 6*l.* 15*s.*—Reynard the Fox and Shifts of Reynardine, 2*l.* 17*s.*—Romancero general, printed at Madrid in 1614, but imperfect, 8*l.* 18*s.* 6*d.*—Rhesi Cambrobrytanice Lingue Institutiones et Rudimenta, 4*l.* 1*s.*—Amphitheatrum æternæ Providentiæ, by Vanini, who was burnt for Atheism, 13*s.*—Strutt's *Horæ*, 8*l.* 2*s.* 6*d.*—Voragine's Golden Legend, imperfect, but probably a fragment of the edition of 1508, hitherto considered a doubtful one, 4*l.*—Eliot's Indian Grammar, wanting title-page, 2*l.* 10*s.*—Dante, printed at Milan in 1477, imperfect, 4*l.* 14*s.*—Giraldi Cinthio Hecatommithi, a Collection of 100 Novels, amongst which are the original Tales on which Shakespeare founded his 'Othello' and 'Measure for Measure,' 1*l.* 7*s.*

The German journals publish an hitherto unprinted poem by Goethe. It has been discovered by Prof. Kahler, of Breslau, in the album of a fellow-student of Goethe, the late Dr. Klose, of Strehlen, in Silesia. The verses, with which the student-poet had inscribed himself in the "Stamm-buch" of his friend, are characteristic of the anacreontic view he took at that time of life. They run as follows:—

Der Reiche.

Ja, ich bin wirklich reich, ich habe
Das göttliche Geschenk, die Gabe,
Mit Wenigem vergnügt zu sein.
Ein Mädchen, willig, nicht zu Küssen,
Der Freunde viel, ein gut Gewissen,
Und täglich eine Flasche Wein.

Leipzig, 12 Mai, 1767.

GOETHE.

Christian Rauch, the late sculptor, was never ashamed of the humble beginnings of his career. It is true that he did not seek the opportunity to speak of the time when he wore the lacquey's livery; but, that opportunity once given, he did not shrink from giving utterance to recollections which to a less elevated mind would, perhaps, have been painful. One day, it is reported in the German papers, he accepted an invitation of the Court, and was riding to the castle, accompanied by Prince Wistgenstein, in one of the royal carriages, "Your Highness," Rauch smiling said, "has most likely forgotten that I have already had the honour of riding in your company this same road?" "I really have no recollection of the fact," the Prince answered. "Why," was the reply, "that can be easily understood; for it is now more than forty years since, and besides, at that time your Highness rode inside the carriage, and I—stood behind!"

A writer in the *Publishers' Circular* must allow us to correct a word of error in relation to ourselves, in his very proper remarks on the recent "tissue of blunders" given to the public on literary copyrights. The *Circular* says:—

"Considerable attention has been excited by a statement which appeared in the *Illustrated London News* a short time since, respecting the ownership of copyrights, and several

complaints have come from authors themselves, that erroneous statements have been made, amongst others, relating to Lord Campbell, Sir Archibald Alison, and Prof. Aytoun. The errors appear to have arisen from the ignorance of the writer in the *Illustrated News* as to the character and forms of the notices given to the Commissioners of Her Majesty's Customs, in conformity with the arrangements for preventing the importation of foreign pirated editions of English copyright books. These notices have been given in many cases, and in strict conformity with regulations, by the publishers, without any specific statement as to the actual ownership of copyrights. From these notices a list has been compiled and printed by the Queen's printers, for the use of Custom House officers at the various ports. In this list there is a heading 'Proprietor of Copyright'; and this has been filled up in the printed list with the names of the publishers, where no other proprietor of copyright has been given. A copy of this list, which is printed in the usual official folio, and covered with the ordinary official blue wrapper, has, it would seem, fallen into the hands of the writer in the *Illustrated News*, who has culled his weekly gossip with selections from it, and has thus misled the public, for whose enlightenment it was certainly never intended. Strange to say, the *Athenæum* roundly denies the existence of such a book, which, however, does exist."

—Here we cry—stay! We never denied that "such a book" exists: on the contrary, we distinctly told our readers that it was from "such a book" that our pictorial contemporary got its mis-information. What we denied was the existence of "a blue-book of literature" giving the particulars mis-understood and mis-copied by our contemporary. Here are our words:—

"We are requested,—by those having perfect knowledge on the point,—to state that a paragraph which appeared in a contemporary last week, pretending to say who is, and who is not, the owner of such and such literary copyright, is 'tissue of gross blunders.' No such literary blue-book exists as the writer affects to follow,—and the elaborate mis-information has apparently been gathered from an entry of the notices given by publishers at the Custom House with a view to assist the officers in preventing the intrusion of reprints from abroad. Our contemporary seems to have imagined that the notices are given in the names of the copyright proprietors,—but such is not the rule of the trade. Publishers give these notices as proprietors, or as agents of the proprietors, indiscriminately."

—Surely this is plain. The difference between a Blue Book and a private copy of instructions to Custom House officers is as great as that between a Family Bible and a butler's ledger. A Blue Book is a public document, published by the Crown for the express information of the country, and is of very great authority. The book followed by our contemporary is a private document, issued for the convenience of post-offices, and is of no authority whatsoever on the point of actual literary copyrights. The Customs book was before us when we wrote.

ADAM and EVE.—DUBUFFE'S GREAT PICTURES, 'The Temptation' and 'The Fall,' are NOW ON VIEW at the Branch Gallery, 12, Pall Mall, opposite the Opera Colonnade.—Admission, 1*s.*

THE SOMNAMBULE, ADOLPHE DIDIER, gives his MAGNETIC SEANCES and CONSULTATIONS for Acute and Chronic Diseases, their Causes and Remedies, and on all subjects of interest, EVERY DAY, from 11 till 4—40, Upper Albany Street, Regent's Park. Consultation by Letter.

PROFESSOR WILLIAM FRICKELL.—St. James's Theatre. TWO HOURS OF ILLUSION. MAGIC, without the aid of any Apparatus. Saturday Afternoons at 3, and EVERY EVENING at 8 (except Thursday and Friday, December 24 and 25)—Stalls, 5*s.*; Gallery, 3*s.*; Boxes, 5*s.*; Pit, 2*s.*; Gallery, 1*s.* Private Boxes, Two Guineas, One Guinea and a half, and One Guinea. Places to be secured at Mr. Mitchell's Royal Library, 33, Old Bond Street.

THE ROYAL POLYTECHNIC.—CHRISTMAS HOLIDAYS will be maintained here with an extraordinary number of ENTERTAINMENTS, of a novel, scientific, and amusing character. THE GIANT CHRISTMAS TREE will yield, gratuitously, unusual quantities of knives and toys for the boys, and pretty things for the girls. The Forty Dissolving Views, illustrating THE REBELLION IN INDIA, and all the Lectures and Entertainments as usual.—Admission to the whole, 1*s.*

DR. KAHN'S MUSEUM AND GALLERY OF SCIENCE, 3, Tichborne-street, facing the Haymarket.—This institution presents entirely new features, and offers unprecedented attractions. Its object is to combine Natural with Experimental Science, and to show the connection between the functions of the Human Body and the great Forces of the Universe. Amongst the numerous novelties now added, may be named the large Oxy-hydrogen Microscope, Güenai's Appareil Uranographique (now first introduced), the latest improvements in Electric and other Apparatus (including Ruhmkorff's world-renowned Coils), Illustrations of Microscopic Anatomy, Dissolving Views of Physiological Phenomena, upon a principle never before attempted, &c. Lectures are delivered daily on the various branches of Science, and their application to the Human Frame, the Laws of Life, and the Preservation of Health, by Dr. Kahn and Dr. Sexton. The Institution is illuminated outside with Dr. Boquer's magnificent Electric Light. Open, for Gentlemen only, from 12 till 5, and from 7 till 10 o'clock.—Admission to the whole Building, One Shilling. Illustrated Catalogues, Sixpence. Programmes and Lectures gratis on application, or by post, free for six stamps.

SCIENTIFIC

SOCIETIES.

SOCIETY OF ANTIQUARIES.—Dec. 10.—J. Bruce, Esq., V.P., in the chair.—Mr. E. Martin Atkins,

Mr. C. Ratcliff, Mr. W. M. Blackwood, and Mr. E. Peacock, were elected Fellows.—Sir G. Musgrave, Bart., exhibited, through Mr. Franks, a number of Roman antiquities found in Westmorland.—The papers read were, 'On the Temple of Serapis, at Pozzuoli,' by Sir E. Head, Bart.,—'Remarks on Documents bearing the Seals of Sir W. Oldhale (temp. Henry the Sixth),' exhibited by Mr. J. Howard, with a memoir of Sir W. Oldhale by Mr. W. S. Walford.

BRITISH ARCHEOLOGICAL ASSOCIATION.—Dec. 9.—T. J. Pettigrew, V.P., in the chair.—Mr. Wakeman forwarded seals and counter-seals of the Lords Marchers of Monmouth and Abergavenny, and communicated a paper on the Chancery of Monmouth, containing much historical detail.—Mr. Pettigrew read a paper containing particulars relating to Kelt's rebellion in Norfolk, in the sixteenth century, derived from scarce tracts in the library of Hudson Gurney, Esq.—Mr. Syer Cumming called the attention of the Association to a recently discovered fraud in the manufacture of antiquities, and produced various flint arrow-heads, clumsily made, and a vase, the ornamentation of which would excite suspicion on the part of any one acquainted with antiquities. A discussion ensued as to the means of punishing the offenders, but it appeared that none were available beyond the publication of them when discovered.—Mr. Luxmoore exhibited a glazed earthen jug of hard baked pottery, found near Smithfield when enlarging a portion of Fleet Ditch. It belonged to the early part of the sixteenth century.—Mr. Wills exhibited a fine Roman intaglio, cut on emerald-coloured glass, found at the Reculvers, in Kent. It gave the representation of Mercury seated on a cippus, or boundary-stone, he being the Protector of Highways. A cock, symbolical of vigilance, is at his feet.—Mr. Lionel Oliver exhibited some beautiful photographs of places visited during the late congress—Castle Rising, Bingham Abbey, Walsingham Abbey, &c. Those of Castle Rising Castle were much admired.—The meetings were adjourned over the Christmas holidays, until the 13th of January.

ETHNOLOGICAL.—Dec. 9.—B. Botfield, Esq., V.P., in the chair.—The Hon. Secretary read a paper, by Dr. Latham, 'On the Minute Ethnology of Europe,' with special reference to a treatise, by Biondelli, entitled 'Prospetto Topografico-Statistico della Colonia straniera d'Italia.' Dr. Latham's was chiefly a suggestive paper; he pointed out the interest and importance of carrying out in other countries of Europe the same researches which Biondelli had undertaken for Italy, and he gave a general but comprehensive view of the different patches of foreign race which are known at the present day to exist, under the character of colonies, within the territory of the different nations of modern Europe. Colonies of this kind have been forming at all ages, and many of them became in course of time amalgamated with and obliterated by the dominant race among which they have settled; and it is interesting to observe how this amalgamation and obliteration takes place.—Mr. J. Kennedy then read, 'Suggestions respecting the Nationality and Language of the Ancient Etruscans.'—Dr. Hodgkin, on the occasion of this paper, gave an account of his recent visit to some of the ancient tombs of Etruria.—Mr. W. F. Ainsworth's paper, 'On the Sabæans dwelling near the Mouths of the Euphrates,' was postponed to the next Meeting.

FINE ARTS

Drawing for Elementary Schools. Being a Manual of Method of Teaching Drawing. Specially adapted for the Use of Masters of National and Parochial Schools. By Ellis A. Davidson. (Chapman & Hall.)

Mr. Davidson is head-master of the Chester School of Art, and his book is published under the sanction of the Science and Art Department of the Committee of Council on Education. The author's principles are clearly laid down in his sensible preface, which deserves quotation:—

"Elementary Drawing being now universally admitted as

a necessary part of general education, the present Manual is intended to give to schoolmasters and others a method of teaching Drawing in their schools, which will, it is hoped, be found at once useful and interesting. The work will be especially useful to those who have not had the advantage of a systematic instruction themselves, but who are still desirous of introducing Drawing into their schools. All such are recommended, in the first place, to make themselves masters of the examples and principles herein given, and of the copies and models published under the auspices of the Department of Science and Art. They should then qualify themselves to execute the subjects and illustrate their remarks on the black board: as by this means the lesson becomes useful to the whole class. The earliest opportunities should be taken of impressing both parents and children with the advantages and usefulness of the art they are acquiring. Drawing, when properly taught and understood, is a universal language, comprehensible alike to natives of every country. It aids the customer to explain his wants to the producer; it enables the master whether manufacturer, builder, engineer, mason, smith, carpenter, or upholsterer to show his workmen the design, form, and character of the article, building, or machine ordered; and it teaches the artisan to understand and to furnish the working drawings so largely used in all mechanical and manufacturing pursuits. A knowledge of practical geometry guides him in using his material with the greatest advantage, and in constructing the accurate forms required; whilst the power of drawing objects by the aid of perspective, enables him to give a correct idea of the appearance of the whole when completed. But, further than these utilitarian applications, Art has advantages which exert an immense influence upon the moral and intellectual state of a people. It is a study to all around; it removes the coarse objects by which the lower classes have been surrounded, and replaces them by graceful ones; it brings neatness, taste, and refinement into the dwellings of those whose well-being and education is now happily engaging the attention of the country; and still further, the study of Drawing brings with it the habit of observation of the glorious works of Nature; and thus, by its elevating and ennobling influence, the mind is raised in gratitude and wonder to the beneficent Source from which all such blessings flow."

We hope to see the time when every washing jug will be as beautiful as an Etruscan vase, but before this good time comes must come education. Some day people will see that drawing is as necessary a part of education as spelling.

THE LIVERPOOL ACADEMY.

OUR request for an "official" version of the facts in the quarrel between Liverpool and its Academy, a quarrel which affects not merely local interests, but general principles, far more important, has brought us from London artists and Liverpool connoisseurs a mass of extremely interesting correspondence. Among the letters demanding our first attention are, an "official" statement from Mr. Herdman, the retiring Academician, whose public protest has brought on the public investigation, explaining and justifying his protest, and one from Mr. Pelham, the Secretary of the impeached Academy, defending its acts.

Before giving these letters to the reader, we may very usefully call attention to the circumstance, that the dissatisfaction has passed beyond the newspaper and the club into regions rarely troubled by discords of foreign growth. The several Learned Societies of which Liverpool is the active centre, have taken the very usual step of discussing and condemning the management of the Academy. The Archaeological Society led the way with a vote of censure. The Literary and Philosophical Society have busied themselves with the question, at the instance of Dr. Thompson and Prof. Archer. Mr. Boulton has brought the subject before the Liverpool Architectural Society. Such facts weigh heavily against the Academy.

Learned bodies are nervously tender of meddling with each other. Only when some extraordinary violence is done to public and professional feelings can such authorities be induced to exercise towards offending fellows the monitorial office. But a justification of this extreme course is involved in the statement of facts accepted by the Architectural Society, and placed on its papers for debate at the next meeting. This statement, taking the form of four Resolutions, reads thus:—

That this meeting is informed that the Liverpool Academy is in the receipt of pecuniary assistance from the borough fund, through the Town Council of Liverpool, equivalent to an annual grant in its aid of 200*l.*, and that it renders to that body no account of the way in which the objects of that grant are promoted. This meeting is, therefore, of opinion that the ratepayers, whose funds are thus applied, are entitled to be informed, through their representatives in council assembled, in what manner the professed objects of the grant are promoted.

That this meeting, therefore, begs most respectfully, but most earnestly, to urge upon the Town Council the pro-

priety of requiring the Liverpool Academy to furnish them year by year, a full and detailed report of the proceedings of the Institution; and in default of such full and detailed report, that the said annual grant in aid be discontinued.

That this meeting is not moved to the adoption of the course from any desire to limit the patronage and support which the Town Council may feel disposed to bestow in aid of the cultivation of a popular taste for the Fine Arts—an object which this Society earnestly believes to be of great value in a large community like this of Liverpool; but because they feel that the recent conduct of the Academy is calculated to defeat the highly laudable intentions of the Town Council, and to prevent the proper cultivation and gratification of the popular taste.

That the Honorary Secretaries be instructed to present a copy of these resolutions, signed by the President on behalf of this Society, to his Worship the Mayor, with a request that they may be submitted to the Town Council at their next meeting; and that those members of the Society who are members of the Town Council be earnestly requested to support the purport of these resolutions when they are brought under the consideration of that body.

By the light of these Resolutions, tendered by one artistic Society in impeachment of the proceedings of another, the following letters may be read. The first from Mr. Herdman.—

West Villa, St. Domingo Vale, Everton, Liverpool, Dec. 15.

As you wish for information relative to the Art-rebellion now raging in Liverpool, I am able to give you every particular, and you may rely on the most faithful accuracy of my statements. I must premise by saying that your first article was true in every respect but one slight error, where you say 'The Blind Girl' was bought for the town; it was not so, it was bought for the owner. I must now state that, for several years, the Pre-Raphaelite mania has so effectually possessed a majority or dominant class of the Liverpool Academy, that the Academy has been given nearly every year to this school, but in two instances the prize has been given twice to the same artist; and besides this the favouritism was so palpable that the large or principal room of our Exhibition, where the best pictures should be, was filled all round the line with all sorts of Pre-Raphaelite trash, whilst clever and legitimate works of Art were shoved into holes and passages in the corridors and third rooms, where they could neither be seen nor appreciated. This is exactly the state of the present Exhibition. The consequence of this policy may easily be imagined. Many of the best London painters ceased to send to us:—the Exhibition, as you truly said, has "divided down to a fiftieth-rate collection." Last year the prize was given to a very inferior picture, which I remonstrated against in vain; but this year the giving of the prize to a most inferior sketch by Mills, which is considered by the most intelligent people of Liverpool to be about the worst picture in the Exhibition, has so aroused public indignation that they have taken the matter up in a way that will soon tell, by absenting themselves from the Exhibition, and the deserted rooms all through the season have shown that it is a serious thing to insult the public taste, and set at defiance public opinion. At length the public voice broke out, in a meeting of the Archaeological Society, where the members of the Academy were strongly condemned for their want of judgment in the award of the prize, and their contempt of public opinion. I, knowing I had not deserved to be included in this censure, wrote a note to the *Liverpool Mercury*, stating that I had not voted for 'The Blind Girl,' that I had voted for the 'Waiting for the Verdict,' by Solomon (which picture the whole town is unanimous should have had the prize), and I was so convinced that Mr. Solomon was unjustly deprived of his due, that I offered to contribute to and raise the amount of the prize in the town. This letter gave great offence to the Pre-Raphaelite clique in the Academy; a meeting was called, some angry correspondence ensued, and I was told that, if ever I wrote to a newspaper again, telling how I had voted for any prize picture, I should be called on to resign. As there was nothing our laws affecting this, I looked at it as a petty piece of tyranny no man of the slightest independence would bear, so I sent the whole correspondence to the papers. For this act, and for my vindicating the taste of the town, and endeavouring to stem the damaging partiality which was ruining our local Exhibition, they expelled me from the Academy,—a most shameful and unwarrantable act, which has increased and added intense acrimony to the controversy, and which may lead to important results not dreamt of at the beginning. With respect to myself, I was the oldest member of the Academy, having been a member twenty-five years. I was Secretary three years, when everybody had a fair field and we had splendid Exhibitions. In those three years I doubled the capital of the society. I originated the twopenny and penny admissions at Christmas, and the Penny Catalogues, a movement that has brought such ample funds to the society, and has been so appreciated by the working classes. Six years ago, seeing the funds of the existing Art-Union diverted from their intended course, and not sufficiently spent amongst the artists, I founded the present Art-Union, and have conducted it ever since without one penny reward, in order that every farthing might go into the hands of the artists. During that time I brought 3,000*l.* to the Exhibition, most of which would come to London. All this was no avail; the Pre-Raphaelite clique were in the ascendant, and I could do nothing but to stand by and see the Academy bid defiance to every one, and to send you all that is said would be to send you every paper that is published. It is perfectly ridiculous, as your last Correspondent wishes to maintain, that the members of the Academy have a right to give their own money to what picture they choose. This argument is untenable, because the public expense of the Academy to be the exponents and leaders of the public taste; and when they find the prize given to, and the Exhibition filled with, inferior Pre-Raphaelite pictures, they take the matter into their own hands, and refrain from

going to see time. The Academy is a great and elevated world of the nation interested in the patronage of the fine arts, and I have no doubt that it will be a credit to the country.

Then for Mr. Pelham.

In the 4th containing respecting the prize have contrived to get after year patent—this is a great deal of money, and I have no longer pretends to. With respect to the critical remark is, that the other remuneration of the prize—this is the right of the artist.

Mr. P. unimproves the Liverpool Academy—as well as an error correct essential contradiction remain, doctors to the F. so they 3. That pend pu condemn Exhibiti 5. That which 6. That so far c from the

FINE listening taken torial of Year a being retired struggle the balance before honour only just reason ary Fir respon body w advan while Should demy cates, sentin of Art elect

going to see the "show." It is evident this cannot continue. The Academy will soon have no money to give; and, besides, the town give the use of the rooms to the Academy; and they expect they will decide with judgment and provide them with "show" that will increase and elevate the public taste. I have now given you faithfully the nature and cause of the present *émence* in the Art-world of Liverpool. The London artists are greatly interested in a proper administration of Art judgment and patronage in Liverpool. It was that *due* distribution of Art to all schools of Art which I advocated, and for which I have been expelled. Let the London artists more and assist us, and we will soon establish something that will be a credit to our town, and a lasting benefit to them. I am, &c., W. G. HERDMAN.

Then follow the explanations of the Secretary, Mr. Pelham.—

Exhibition Rooms, Old Post Office Place, Church Street, Dec. 11.

In the *Athenæum* of the 5th inst. I noticed an article containing some very erroneous and unfounded statements respecting the Liverpool Academy, of which the following are the principal:—1st. "For some years past those who have control of the Liverpool Academy have gone over strongly to the Pre-Raphaelite heresy in Art, buying year after year Pre-Raphaelite pictures." The fact has been patent—the reason unknown. 2. "At last public indignation has broken out. The purchase of one of Mr. Millais's inferior works for a very large sum on behalf of the town, has disgusted the Liverpool connoisseurs." In reply to this, I beg most explicitly to state that the Academy never purchased any picture—Pre-Raphaelite or otherwise—for themselves or on behalf of the town, there being neither gallery nor funds for such a purpose. 3rd. "Some of the members of the Academy have had the courage to separate their own responsibilities from those of their fellows." This is an exaggeration, only one has done so, and he is no longer a member. 3rd. "The Academy, of course, pretends to feel offended at the free criticism of the public." With respect to this, I can assure you that the Academy does not feel—much less *pretend* to feel—offended at the critical remarks made on their Exhibition, their only regret is that the criticism is not *sounder*. There are several other remarks, but as they are more properly matters of opinion they must be passed over. Trusting to your promise—"if we mis-state any of them we shall willingly set them right on better knowledge"—

I am, &c., JAMES PELHAM, Secretary to the Liverpool Academy.

Mr. Pelham, as will have been seen, corrects one unimportant error in our statement, namely, that the Liverpool Academy has *acquired* for the Town—as well as *owned* for the Town—certain pictures; an error which Mr. Millais also empowers us to correct so far as he is concerned. But all the essential facts of our statement stand as yet uncontradicted. These facts remain, or appear to remain, after this explanation:—1. That the conductors of the Liverpool Academy have gone over to the Pre-Raphaelite heresy. 2. That by doing so they have disaffected the artists and the public. 3. That, nevertheless, they have continued to expend public money in fostering a sectarian heresy, condemned by all true judges. 4. That the Annual Exhibition has fallen off in interest and attraction. 5. That dissension exists within the Academy, which has led to public protest and repudiation. 6. That the general feeling in the town has been so far offended as to provoke and justify rebuke from the Learned Societies.

FINE-ART GOSSIP.—The Royal Academy, wisely listening to the voices outside, has at last undertaken to discuss the question of creating a Senatorial or Honorary Class of Royal Academicians. Year after year artists have urged this course; it being surmised that some of the Forty who have retired, crowned with honours, from the active struggles of their youth, would be willing to yield the battle-ground to younger men. At the instance of Mr. Cockerell, the subject has been laid before the Council; and if the most courteous and honourable form be given to the proposition, as is only just, we do not see on what ground it can reasonably be opposed. The Senatorial or Honorary R.A.'s would still be Royal Academicians. Their retirement from the scene of combats and responsibilities into a more calm and senatorial body would be their own act. All the honours and advantages of the Academy would cling to them, while they would be relieved of its harassing duties. Should the proposition be carried, the Royal Academy would consist of three bodies—the Associates, the Academicians, and the Senators—representing the Youth, the Manhood, and the Maturity of Art.

Next month the Royal Academy will have to elect a successor among the Forty of the late Mr.

Uwins. Several names are freely mentioned in artistic circles as likely to stand well on the lists; but the favourites, so far as we hear, are Messrs. Danby, Poole, and Cooper.

A photograph of the medallion commissioned by the Royal Academy as a memorial of Turner, and executed by Mr. Bailey, is on our table. The allegory is chosen with a felicitous feeling, suggesting one of the most poetical ideas that a severe art like sculpture can present in illustration of a sportive and brilliant art like landscape painting. Turner was a King of Colour, and his landscapes were scenes of dissolving rainbows and sunshine. Mr. Bailey represents this power by Iris, goddess of colour, drawing the eyes of a personified Genius to the blending of tints and tones in nature's most exquisite creation of dissolving light. The rainbow, as might be expected from our Marble Poet, is personified in an arch of graceful allegorical female figures, who seem to float in air by their own ethereal buoyancy. The composition is extremely beautiful.

The Committee appointed by the Society of Arts to inquire into the state of the law in reference to copyright in pictures, will hold their first meeting in the course of a few days. The following gentlemen have already consented to serve on the committee:—Sir C. L. Eastlake, P.R.A.; T. H. Hurlstone, President of the Society of British Artists; J. F. Lewis, President of the Society of Painters in Water Colours; John Bell, D. Robertson Blaine, F. S. Cary, H. Cole, C.B., Dominic Colnaghi, C. Wentworth Dilke, Roger Fenton, William Fladgate, George Godwin, Owen Jones, John Leighton, J. Linnell, W. Mulready, R.A., G. Scharf, jun., and William Tooker.

MUSIC AND THE DRAMA

SACRED HARMONIC SOCIETY. Exeter Hall.—Conductor, Mr. COSTA. WEDNESDAY NEXT, December 22, the usual Christmas Performance of Handel's *MESSIAH*. Vocalists: Madame Rüdersdorff, Mrs. Locket, Mr. Locket, and Mr. Weiss, with Orchestra of 700 Performers.—Tickets, 3s., 2s., and 10s. 6d. each.—6, Exeter Hall.

ST. MARTIN'S HALL.—Handel's *MESSIAH* will be repeated on MONDAY NEXT, December 21, under the direction of Mr. JOHN HULLAH. Principal Vocalists—Miss Kemble, Miss Mesent, Miss Palmer; Mr. Montem Smith, Mr. Thomas, Mr. Santley.—Tickets, 1s., 2s., 6d.; Stalls, 5s. For the Season, Stalls, 3s., Galleries, 1s. New Subscribers entitled to three extra admissions.

MR. HENRY LESLIE'S CHOIR.—A CONCERT OF POPULAR MADRIGALS, PART-SONGS, &c., including several written for the choir, will be given at ST. MARTIN'S HALL, Long Acre, on TUESDAY EVENING, December 22, at half-past 8 o'clock, and terminate about half-past Ten. Pianoforte, Miss Arabella Goddard.—Stalls, 3s.; Gallery, 2s.; Area, 1s. Tickets at the Hall, principal Musicians, or Addison, Hollier & Lucas, 210, Regent Street.

HANDEL'S FUNERAL ANTHEM.—Four years ago [*Athen.* No. 1329] Handel's 'Funeral Anthem' was adverted to, among other Requiems. We might have added, that it is unique among them, since no other Protestant music for the same uses can be mentioned in parallel with it. The rapidity with which it was put together has been dwelt on as a wonder; but the marvel is reduced by the knowledge that Handel had stores of convertible material—his own and other men's wares—ready to hand. The composition seems to have been comparatively overlooked in England, as though it was merely an ephemeral piece of funeral parade, in place of its having a peculiar importance, as standing at a turning point of its composer's career. But the score was reprinted in Germany, and, we surmise, may have been better known there than many of the oratorios which succeeded it. At all events, Time has proved it to be one of those inspirations which anticipate, if they do not furnish, types, forms, and suggestions for after-creations in the same style. It is impossible not to be struck by certain hints which Handel's Anthem contains of effects reproduced in Mozart's 'Requiem.' The opening of both by a series of detached chords is clearly identical in taste. The pathetic entry of female voices on the words "*Voca me*" in the "confutatis" of the Latin Service, was foreshown in the chorus "She delivered the poor that cried," where a similar wail, rising alone and carried on independently of the strict phrase of the movement, is yet more moving and mournful. This chorus (by the way) offers matter for other remark, — as an example of work bestowed on a short phrase.

Handel has afforded another in 'Alexander's Feast,' in the chorus "So love was crowned,"—a third in his Cecilian Ode on the words "The dead shall live": in all three proving what could be made out of monotony and iteration. But this funeral specimen is the most interesting of the three, owing to the *solo* episodes just mentioned.—Those (to return) who admit that parallel does not imply plagiarism may turn from the quartet "They shall receive a glorious kingdom" to Mozart's more luscious "*Recordare*," and fancy, with us, that the one may have influenced the other, though direct imitation there is none, neither such coincidence 'as exists in the two movements already specified. Wherefore not? The extent to which Handel had been, in his time, influenced by his Italian studies will be found among the modulations in his chorus "But their name liveth for evermore."—Very stately, in its *rococo* style, is the verse "The righteous shall be had in everlasting remembrance." There the stiff *Corvelli* figure, of four-quaver passages, marks a period; it interferes with the solemnity of the work no more than the antique costume of effigy praying on a monument impairs in bystanders their grave thoughts of death and devotion.—The above are merely a few obvious remarks, to which this revival has given occasion. It seems as difficult as usual to ascertain what were Handel's final intentions in regard to the text of the Anthem; since the copies of it are singularly at variance one with the other.

A word has to be said concerning the performance of this Anthem by Mr. H. Leslie's Choir. All the choral portions were very good. The organ bore down the stringed instruments too heavily,—and its player was not Handelian in his fillings-up. Further (especially in the quartet "When the ear heard him"), the accompaniment was too detached, and thus too small in effect. The players should lean into Handel's phrases, not deliver them tidily. Our former indifference to accent in England must not be exchanged for accent everywhere without caution offered. "Too little" and "too much" come to the same thing. The right expression, given to Mozart's music by variety of tone without sudden force anywhere, must in Handel's be wrought out by breadth without delay, by grandeur without exaggeration, by richness of sound without fear of monotony. Against that the master provided with all the science of art and the instinct of genius.

ORATORIOS OF THE WEEK.—Our Christmas (otherwise Handel) weeks, preluded this year by the interesting revival just discussed, set in eight days ago, when the first performance of 'The Messiah,' by the *Sacred Harmonic Society*, took place, with Madame Rüdersdorff, Mrs. and Mr. Locket, and Mr. Weiss, as *solo* performers.—On Wednesday, the "*Sacred Oratorio*" was given at *St. Martin's Hall*. Mr. Hullah deserves well of every one for his enterprise in producing what is new, either in the matter of music, or of artists. More than usual freshness of interest was given to his 'Messiah' by the first trial before any public of Miss Kemble. Though a name is a goodly heritage, like all inheritances it carries with it its responsibilities. In art, it is easier to make than to maintain the honour of a family. Who could envy the feelings with which a new *Semiramide*, calling herself *Mlle. Pasta*, must step on the stage? The cordial expectation awaiting the coming out of a Kemble belonging to a third generation must have been as oppressive as encouraging to one meriting the name. The new Miss Kemble is apparently not the least gifted of her race. Her *soprano* voice is already, as an organ, sufficient both in quality and quantity. Her articulation is clear, and her delivery poetical. Though she suffered obviously from the nervousness of a first ordeal in the pastoral recitative, she began to rally in the following *bravura*, 'Rejoice greatly,' like one who will exhibit plenteous resources, when she is calm enough to use them,—with every bar showing more ease, brilliancy, and confidence. In the third part, Miss Kemble delivered 'I know that my Redeemer liveth' in a style so devotional and majestic, as must have satisfied every one present that hers was the first appearance of one who, with time

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